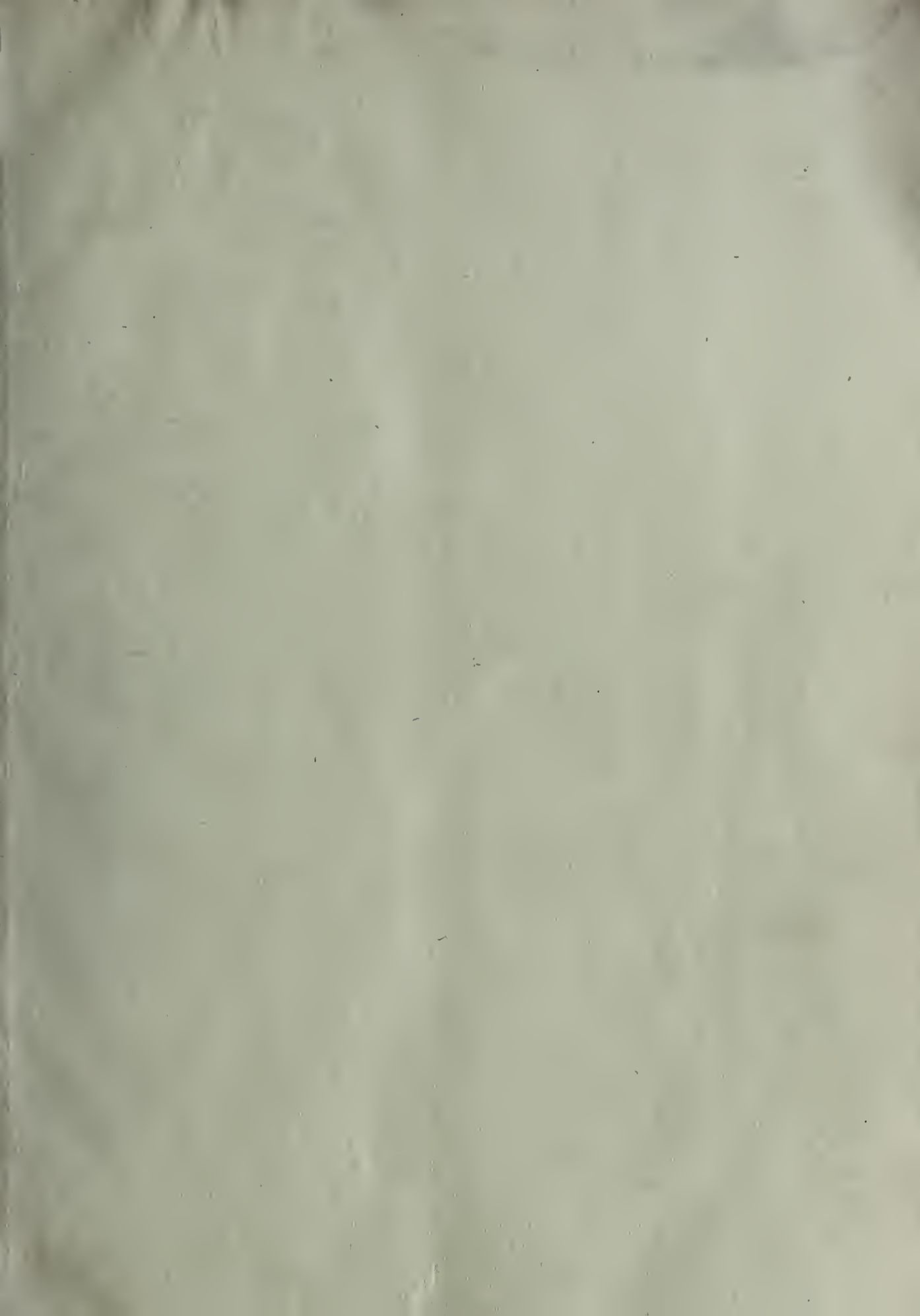


wp
REFERENCE



COLLECTIONS



S-R

9741.8

P38611

V.14



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries



MARK TWAIN'S SCRAP BOOK.

PATENTS:

UNITED STATES.
JUNE 24TH, 1873.

GREAT BRITAIN.
MAY 16TH, 1877.

FRANCE.
MAY 18TH, 1877.

TRADE MARKS:

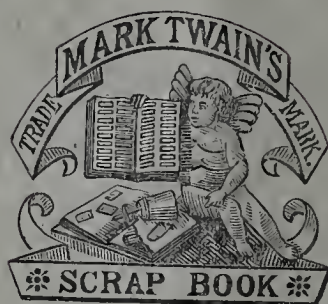
UNITED STATES.
REGISTERED No. 5,896.

GREAT BRITAIN.
REGISTERED No. 15,979.

DIRECTIONS.

Use but little moisture, and only on the gummed lines. Press the
scrap on without wetting it.

DANIEL SLOTE & COMPANY,
NEW YORK.



INDEX.

A

Page

B

Page

B.

C

INDEX.

U V

Page

W

W

X Y Z

From, *Intelligence*
Doylestown Pa.
Date, *June 19th 1894,*

THE AFFLERBACH FAMILY.

Read Before the Buckwampun Literary
Association at Applebachsville, June
9th, by William J. Buck.

(Continued from yesterday.)

John George Afflerbach had the following children: Elibabeth born in 1801, married Frederick Smith; Samuel born Feb. 14, 1802, married Juliana Funk and died in 1881; John born Nov. 27, 1803, married Sophia Deihl, daughter of Isaac, Feb. 2, 1840, and died Nov. 16, 1878; Hannah born 1805, married Peter Swartz; Tobias Aug. 6, 1807, married Catharine Deihl, died Feb. 13, 1883; Abraham May 11, 1809, married Magdalena Bibighouse, died Jan. 28, 1874; Charles, April 12, 1811, died Oct. 16, 1837; Daniel April 13, 1813, married Sarah Frankenfield, died Aug. 22, 1854; Sarah, May 21, 1815, married — Deihl, died Jan. 4, 1892; Josiah, Sept. 15, 1817, died near Frankford; Dorothy born June 4, 1819; Isaac, Aug. 15, 1821, married Caroline Kile and resides in Philadelphia; Mary married Joseph Keller. John Henry Afflerbach, son of Abraham, was a captain during the late war in the 174th Pennsylvania regiment, in which his brother George Franklin served as corporal, died at Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6, 1862, aged nearly 30 years. Although we have secured considerable later information respecting the descendants of this branch, our time will not now permit us to enlarge further in this direction.

LUDWIG AFFLERBACH, OF DURHAM,

Was born at Wittgenstein, April 11, 1753, and in company with his elder brother arrived in Philadelphia, September 30, 1773, as is mentioned on his tombstone at Nockamixon church, being at this time only 20 years of age. He first settled in Springfield and it is supposed in the neighborhood of Henry Applebach who had preceded him about three years. His wife's name was Anna and respecting her possess nothing additional. He gave in his allegiance September 8, 1778, and was married about this time. In 1780 he was taxed in Springfield for 32 acres of land, 2 horses and 2 cattle. He had children Daniel, Catharine, Magdalena, Christina, Sarah and Elizabeth.

Ludwig, or better known in English as Lewis, purchased June 18, 1788, of Clement Sewel, a farm of 112 acres in Durham, located about a mile south of the village of that name and on the east side of the old road leading to Philadelphia, where he removed and resided the remainder of his days. He subsequently had his property divided into two farms, on which he erected the necessary buildings and also purchased adjoining prop-

erty until the whole comprised about 300 acres, and extended for some distance eastward along the road leading to the Delaware river at Monroe. He died January 28, 1832, aged nearly 79 years, his wife having preceded him some time before. His real estate was sold by his administrators in 1832. Among the purchasers were John Gruver, John K. Adams and Peter Steely. The woodland was sold in eight tracts. Owing to his advanced age he had relinquished farming for several years. He left a considerable estate the result of his industry and enterprise.

Daniel Afflerbach, the eldest and only son, was born March 24, 1781, whom his father took pains to have well educated in both the English and German languages. From early life he had an impediment in his speech which he never entirely overcame and prevented him from entering on a profession as had been contemplated. Hence he settled down a farmer on one of his father's places until near the close of his life when he became a justice of the peace. His wife's name we have not ascertained. He had a son Lewis now long deceased and probably other children. His death occurred March 11, 1856, and was buried beside his parents in Nockamixon. The interesting inscription on his father's tomb was composed by him in 1832.

Catharine, the eldest daughter of Ludwig, was married to Jacob Sumstone, who was called after his father, who died in Nockamixon in 1812. He was a noted teamster to Pittsburg in his day. They had eight children. He died June 4, 1832, aged nearly 46 years. His eldest son Lewis died in Tinicum about 1875. Jacob was born on the old homestead in 1821, of which he became proprietor and died thereon in 1886. These brothers also followed teaming down to about 1840. On a visit to Jacob's house in September, 1879, I was shown his father's huge wagon body that had repeatedly conveyed freight from Philadelphia to Pittsburg drawn by six horses. It was 13 feet long and 34 feet in height, painted a blue color. After his father's death, Lewis drove it to the latter destination down to 1834. The barn here had been specially built for teaming purposes, so as to drive therein in the most unfavorable weather and to pass through it without necessitating backing. Jacob had also a brother Samuel and a sister Anna married to Enos Wood, of Tinicum. All the aforesaid are now deceased but have surviving descendants.

Magdalena Afflerbach was married to Charles Thatcher, a descendant of an early Nockamixon family. At the death of Ludwig he was a tenant on one of his farms. Christina and her husband were deceased before 1832; they left an only surviving child, Lewis Smith, a minor of whom in 1834 John K. Adams was appointed guardian. Respecting Anna and Sarah Afflerbach can give no particulars, except that they had deceased before 1833. Considerable of our information respecting this family has been derived from the papers of Jacob E. Buck, who was the principal administrator of Ludwig's estate and now in our possession.

JOSEPH AFFLERBACH, OF SPRINGFIELD.

The aforesaid was the nephew of Daniel and Ludwig, and through letters relating the success that had attended their efforts

here, induced him to leave the home of his ancestors at Wittgenstein, where he was born Nov. 17, 1773, and settled near them. He had received a good school education and in addition pursued a full term of apprenticeship at the smith's business, extending into the manufacture of various kinds of utensils and cutlery. So at the age of nearly 23 years, single and unaccompanied by acquaintances, embarked at Hamburg on the brig Mary. Caleb Earl, master, and arrived in Philadelphia, July 30, 1796. From the latter place with a good outfit of clothing and mechanic tools was not long in wending his way to his relatives in Springfield township.

There is a tradition that he first set up his occupation with Isaac Diehl, married to Catharine, the sister of John George Afflerbach, and thus became acquainted with Maria, the daughter of George and Palsaria Stonebach, who was a niece of his wife, the latter being a daughter of Christiana and Dorothy Steiubach, now anglicized into Stonebach, of Haycock. The exact date of his marriage has not been ascertained, but it was before the summer of 1799. About this time he rented the house and shop of Henry Applebach, who is supposed was a cousin to his father. He here continued his occupation until about 1805, when he erected buildings on a 20-acre tract purchased of Isaac Burson, April 14, of the previous year, to this in 1811, purchased more land adjoining; making in all 64 acres, situated at Bursonville and on the main road leading to Bethlehem. On this property he made considerable improvements and retained possession until April, 1833.

He had children John, Catharine, Joseph, George, William, Henry, Elizabeth, Samuel and David. John, the eldest, was born June 20, 1800, who, with George, William, Elizabeth and Samuel died in early life. He was an ingenious mechanic and a devoted reader of books; by 1834 had accumulated a library of upwards of 300 volumes. He was one of the founders and long a trustee of the famous old Eight Square stone school house, and for the time had his children well educated. In 1823 he was

appointed postmaster at Bursonville, which position he held for some time. After disposing of his place he purchased a small farm in Nockamixon, about a mile east of Revere, where he died Dec. 2, 1845, aged 72 years. Since his death a record has been found that his given name was John Joseph, but like his relative John Henry, of Springfield, dropped the first as rendering it more convenient. Hence it is assumed that John has been an old ancestral name in the family.

Catharine, his eldest daughter, was born Dec. 6, 1802, and married Feb. 25, 1824, to Jacob E. Buck, of Bucksville. Their wedded life extended to 56 years, without a death in this long interval in their household. She died at Jenkintown, July 2, 1883, aged 81 years, 6 months. They have surviving descendants in Montgomery county and at Louisville, Ky. Joseph learned the smith trade and on the retirement of his father succeeded him in the business. He married in 1837, Elizabeth, the daughter of John Weiss, of Williams township, and in 1849 removed near Davis, Stephenson county, Illinois, where in connection with his occupation entered into the manufacture and repair of iron machinery. He died August 20, 1888, aged 78 years.

He left 5 sons and 5 daughters, all married and have numerous descendants residing chiefly in Illinois, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas, who are engaged in various pursuits.

Henry was born about 1812, who had the misfortune through an accident to lose his right hand when a boy, in consequence was sent more to school, finishing his course at the Doylestown Academy prior to 1832. Hence he made teaching his profession down to his death in 1842. He taught both English and German. David was born in 1822 and became a skilled carpenter in frame work. The latter part of his life he resided in South Easton, where he died in January, 1870. During the late war he served in Col. Butler Price's first regiment of Pennsylvania cavalry, for which he was promoted to a sergeantry. His surviving children are Ella, Joseph and Anna. The last two are married and have descendants.

HENRY AFFLERBACH, OF NOCKAMIXON.

He was the fifth and last number of the family that came to America. He was also a native of Wittgenstein and embarked at Hamburg on the ship William Johnson, arrived at Philadelphia December 3, 1807. By occupation a joiner or carpenter, to which he had served a full term of apprenticeship and was now in his 25th year. Owing to the favorable letters he had received from his relatives here, with the wars prevailing in Europe, encouraged him also to emigration. He first followed house carpentering in the Northern Liberties, near the city, where he married. About his wife we know no more than that her first name was Elizabeth. During the war of 1812-14, he worked in the government armory at Harper's Ferry making musket stocks.

He purchased April 20, 1816, a messuage and tract of 34 acres of land in Nockamixon, of Benjamin Jacoby, adjoining Jacob Sumstone. Its location was on the road leading from Easton to Revere, about a mile north of the latter place, the same more recently owned by the Rev. C. P. Miller. We possess no evidence that he removed thereon until in the spring of 1823, when he concluded to establish a public house, for which purpose he greatly enlarged the buildings and gave it the name of "The Traveler's Rest," which he conducted in connection with carpentering and farming. The Delaware canal having been now completed to Bristol and venturing too far in his several enterprises, became embarrassed and his real estate sold at assignee's sale, November 27, 1829, for \$2100, not near as much as its first cost, hence thereby losing a considerable amount.

After this occurrence he removed to the city where he resumed his former business and died about 1840. His children were Mary, Henry, Louisa, Susan, William and Charles. Mary, the oldest, married Jacob Rorerbacher in 1835 and died about 1883. Louisa married Mathias Weaver, and Susan, Joseph Clark. William had sons Wm. H., John C., Joseph C., and Martha, married to Joseph Hunter. Charles is now the only survivor of his father's family. No descendants now reside in Bucks county, the larger portion in Philadelphia.

Having now given a brief account of the several branches of the Afflerbach family, will in closing offer a few general observations thereon. The names of

John, George, Henry and Daniel prevailing among them is in itself strong evidence of their originating from one parent stock within the past two centuries. In the case of Henry Applebach, who came here in 1770, some doubt alone exists. It has been supposed that he was a brother of Daniel and Ludwig, but being sufficiently older the probability is that he was their first cousin. The family has been noted for its industry and honesty, and not one has been ascertained hearing the surname that has figured in the criminal records of this county though here now a century and a quarter. They have been remarkably affectionate towards each other and not given to litigation. My object in this effort is to lay some foundation for the preservation of the early history of the first arrival and settlement, leaving it to the later descendants thereof the task of rendering it more complete through additional and later researches.

From, *Democrat*

Doylestown Pa

Date, *June 21/1894*

OLD TOHICKON UNION CHURCH.

A THOUSAND PEOPLE COMMUNE AND WORSHIP THERE.

Historical Sketch of the Ancient Church, Read by Asa Frankenfield Before the Buckwampun Literary Association at Applebachsville on June 9, 1894.

It is hard at this late date to ascertain the time the first church was built here, but it appears that as early as 1743 public services were held at this place. The first deed on record bears the date of September 6, 1753, which was made between Jacob Rees, Martin Shaffer, Ludwig Wildonger, Jacob Rohr, John Worman and Michael Ott, trustees of the Calvinist and Lutheran congregations, of the one part, and Blasius Boyer, of Chester county, of the other part, for a tract of land situated in Bedminster township, and containing one acre and a quarter and sixteen perches, which was bought for five shillings.

A second tract, containing two acres, was bought from Enos Lewis, for 20¢ gold or silver money. The deed bears the date of April 11, 1803, and was made between Enos Lewis, of the one part, and John Haney, Jacob Sollday, Jacob Beideman and Philip Schreyer, trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations, of other part. A third tract was bought from Jacob Delp, containing one acre and 91 perches, for \$303 46. The deed bears the date of May 7, 1864, and was made between Jacob Delp, of the one part, and John K. Shellenberger, Thomas

Bartholomew, Thomas Frederick and William Keller, of the other part, trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations.

A fourth tract, containing eight perches, was bought from Henry K. and John K. Shellenberger for five dollars. The deed bears the date of November 22, 1879, and was made between Henry K. and John K. Shellenberger of the one part and the trustees of the Tohickon Church of the other part. The time of the first burial is not known, but amongst the oldest tombstones that can be found are dates as far back as 1767. The cemetery was started in 1873. The first burial was Harry Johnson in October, 1873.

The first church was built before the deed was given. It is supposed to have been erected about 1743. It was a log structure, without a floor or a stove. It served the congregations until 1766, when the second church was built. This was a stone structure, also without floors or stoves, except that the altar was laid with brick. It had galleries on three sides, but at a later date gloves and floors were also put in. The third building was erected in 1838 by Charles Wopemaker, contractor. It is a stone structure, fifty by sixty feet, also with galleries on three sides. It was remodeled in 1884. The first organ was purchased by Peter Henry at a cost of \$1,500 and presented to the church by him. The second organ was purchased in 1830 from Mr. Krauss, of Lehigh county.

The earliest reliable record is that in the "Haileschen Nachrichten," where repeated mention of Tohickon Church appears as early as 1749. In that year the Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg had charge of the Lutheran congregation, which he describes as small and poor. As he had a large field and could not attend to his congregation regularly, he secured the services of a student or candidate named Rudolph H. Schrenk, whose preaching was highly appreciated. The Sacraments were administered by Muhlenberg himself. The next regular pastors were, Lucas Raus, from 1751 to 1753; John Andre, from 1753 to 1756; Johann Martin Shaffer, from 1756 to 1759; Johann Joseph Roth, from 1761 to 1764; Johann Wolf Szel, from 1765 to 1769; Conrad Roeller, from 1772 to his death in 1796—his body is buried beneath the altar of the Indianfield Church—George Roeller, from 1797 to 1839; Engelbert Felzoto, from 1840 to 1864; F. Walz from 1865 to 1893. The present pastor is the Rev. C. Fetter.

It is impossible at this late date to ascertain when and by whom the Reformed congregation of Tohickon was organized. In 1738 to '43 a large number of French Huguenots and Palatine families, with some Swiss and Germans, settled in the vicinity of the church, bringing in many instances little else than the Bible, hymn-book and Heidelberg Catechism, and meeting in each others houses for worship as circumstances permitted. There are evidences of an organization in 1743, but no pastor was settled here until August 27, 1749, when the Rev. Jacob Biesz was installed. He had charge of the congregation until 1756. His successors number twelve, as follows: The Revs. John Egidio Hecker, from 1756 to 1765; Christopher Gebrecht, from 1766 to 1770; Casper Wack, from 1772 to 1781; John Theohold Faber, from 1782 to 1787; John William Ingold, from 1789 to 1789; Necoleus Pomp, from 1790 to 1799; Jacob

Selm, from 1799 to 1818; John Andrew Strassberger, from 1818 to 1854; Joshua Derr, from 1854 to 1857; Peter S. Fisher, from 1857 to 1871; Jacob Kehm, May, 1871, present pastor.

Some of these pastors were highly educated. Latinisms appears frequently, particularly in the entries of baptisms. Mr. Wack was pastor during the Revolutionary period, and was an ardent patriot. Strassberger spent the whole of his ministerial life here. The average length of the pastoral relation has been about ten years. This congregation has rapidly increased in numbers and is one of the strongest numerically of the churches in the county. All the Reformed churches of this neighborhood have derived their membership from old St. Peter's, as it is called. The transition from German to English in public worship is being gradually effected by both denominations. Services have become more frequent. Benevolent and local objects receive considerable attention. Although one of the oldest churches in the county and the mother of quite a number of others of more recent origin, this church still possesses the elements calculated to render her future prosperous and useful.

But one of the pastors is buried here—the Rev. Jacob Riesz, the first Reformed pastor. On his tomb-stone you will find the following inscription: "Rev. Jacob Riesz, former pastor here, was born April 10, 1706, and died December 23, 1774." The two congregations together number about 1,000 confirmed members.

From, *Democrat*

Daylesstown Pa.

Date, *June 28* 1894.

BUCKS COUNTY MILITIA.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS AND DATA OF VARIOUS COMMANDS.

"The Applebachsville Artillery" and Kindred Organizations.—The Part They Took in the Rebellion. — A Scrap of History.

The following concluding portion of District Attorney Paul H. Applebach's paper on "Applebachsville," read at the Buckwampun Literary Association's meeting at that place, contains valuable references to the militia movements in the county, and as it was not published with the sketch of the village, it is here-with given as a separate article:

We cannot close this sketch, however, without paying our tribute of respect to the gallant men of the town and vicinity, who in the perilous days of the War of the Rebellion, marched to the front, and gave their lives and their fortunes to the service of their country.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Joseph Thomas, of Quakertown, Pa., I have been furnished the following facts in relation to the military company that was organized at Applebachsville shortly before the War of the Rebellion, and which occupied an important and conspicuous position during the war.

For several years prior to the war the upper districts of Bucks county were famous for military organizations, which were well equipped and well instructed in military training, as the manual drill and manoeuvre in the field were at that time understood and taught. A military spirit had been encouraged by numerous Acts of Assembly, passed to organize the general militia of the State. All able-bodied male citizens, from the age of 17 years to 45 years, were enrolled and required to muster twice a year, or be subject to a fine of about one dollar per annum. Provision was made for uniformed companies, and the fines were employed in supporting and encouraging these uniformed volunteer companies.

At the time the company was organized at Applebachsville, there were in the vicinity the following military companies: The Jackson Guards, commanded by Samuel S. Stahr, previously for several years commanded by Capt. Aaron B. Walp, who was subsequently promoted to Major of the Second Regiment of Bucks county; the National Artillerists, commanded by Captain Elias Slight; Union Blue Artillery, commanded for many years by Solomon Katz, and more lately by Captain B. Frank Fisher; Keystone Rifles, of Springtown, commanded by Captain E. T. Hess, who was subsequently known as Colonel Hess; the Durham Rifles, commanded by Captain Lehnen; the Union Hussars Cavalry, by Captain Peter M. Hager, and the Washington Cavalry, commanded by Captain John Youngken, of the neighborhood of Bursonville.

These and other companies constituted the Second Regiment of uniformed volunteers of Bucks county. John Maugle at this period was the Colonel and Aaron B. Walp the Major. The regiment was part of the brigade of which Brigadier General Joseph Morrison was the commanding officer, and this brigade was connected with the division of which Major General Paul Applebach was the officer in command. The division embraced the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware.

In the Spring of 1858 the company at Applebachsville was organized, and the enrollment embraced nearly 50 members. It was equipped, uniformed and armed with State muskets. The company was named "The Applebachville Artillery," and Dr. Joseph Thomas was elected and commissioned its Captain; John F. Ahlum, First Lieutenant, and Samuel T. Bush, Second Lieutenant. Jacob B. Bartholomew was appointed Orderly Sergeant.

The company adopted the Hardee Manual of tactics, and it became very proficient in this practice of drill. At the different musterings in which this company participated, the somewhat novel mode of tactics it practiced gave it considerable eclat and notoriety. A spacious and comfortable armory was erected in Applebachsville for its accommodation.

Although the loyalty of the company to the cause of the Union early in the war was challenged by some parties whose patriotism was more significant

in words than deeds, yet the stars and stripes floated over the armory day and night from the time the building was employed as a drill room. Very early in the conflict the service of the company was tendered to the Governor, and when the assignment of three companies to Bucks county was made, the Applebachsville Artillery received the honor of being chosen one of the number. Bristol furnished the second and Newtown the third—namely, Beatty's Company, Feaster's Company and Thomas' Company. As soon as the Applebachsville Company was chosen, recruiting was actively entered into and preparations were made for departure to the new scene at Easton where it was to rendezvous for real service.

On June 10, 1861, orders were received to proceed to Quakertown Station, where transportation would be furnished by rail to Easton. The officers of the company as now organized were: Dr. Joseph Thomas, Captain; B. Frank Fisher and Dr. Nelson Applebach, Lieutenants. The company had an enrollment of nearly 100 men, was inspected and formally mustered into the service of the State for three years.

In the course of a week or more the several companies encamped at Easton were required to form regimental organization, and the "Applebachville Artillery" was known as Company H, of the Third Reserve Volunteer Corps of Pennsylvania. The few weeks at Easton were employed in thorough drill and on the 22d day of July, 1861, the regiment broke camp and moved to Harrisburg, Pa. On July 27 the regiment was mustered into the United States service, and assigned in the reserve corps as the Third Regiment. It was quartered in the city of Washington for a short time, and then ordered to Tenallytown, a short distance from Washington.

From this time on it was actively engaged in the war. It was in the famous Peninsular Campaign, and engaged in all the important battles. During the numerous and fierce battles of this campaign many of the soldiers of this gallant company were either killed or wounded, and when the company after a service of three years, on the 19th of June, 1864, was mustered out at Philadelphia, most of them had perished upon the field of battle or died in hospitals.

From, *Republican*
Lansdale Pa.

Date, *July 4" 1894.*

An Interesting Historical Note.

Butler avenue, Ambler, is a name taken from that of the old Butler road, now the Whitehallville turnpike, running from Chalfont to Three Tuns. This road was laid out by Simon Butler, one of the earlier settlers of New Britain, who owned all of the land where the village of Chalfont now stands. This included a grist mill, built in 1723, and it was to open access from their mill southward that he opened a road about 1730—35. He was

the foremost man in his community, and Justice of the Peace for forty years. His death took place in 1764 at the age of eighty, and fifty-four years after his coming to America from Wales.

From, *Intelligencer*
Doylestown Pa.
Date, *July 9" 1894.*

APPLEBACHVILLE.

THE ONCE BUSTLING VILLAGE AT THE FOOT OF HAYCOCK.

A Paper Read at the Meeting of the Buckwampun Literary and Historical Association by Paul H. Applebach, Esq., of Doylestown, June 9, 1894.

Applebachville is situated along the old Bethlehem road, in the upper part of Haycock township, and at present contains about twenty-four dwellings. Most of the land upon which the village is built belonged to the Stokes family, who came from England about 1680, and settled in Burlington county, N. J. John Stokes, the eldest son, came to Haycock about 1743, and remained until about 1750, when he returned to N. J. While here, a son was born, who was also called John, and was the immediate ancestor of the Stokes family that lived in the township for many years. On the 7th day of the 3d month, 1786, John Stokes of Willingborough township, Burlington county, N. J., by his will, which was proven in the register's office of Bucks county, on the 12th day of September, 1806, devised unto his son, John Stokes, all his lands and improvements lying in Haycock township, Bucks county, Pa., where the said John Stokes, the son then lived, upon condition that he pay to his mother or her heirs the sum of 100£ in gold and silver coin, within one year after the death of the testator.

This tract of land, at that time contained about 400 acres, and consisted largely of meadow and woodland which was used extensively for grazing purposes and the raising of stock. The son, John Stokes, on the 30th day of the 3d month, 1809, by his will, which was proven before the register of wills of Bucks county, on the 14th day of August, 1813, devised about 380 acres of the above tract to his son, also called John, and to another son named Stogdell who held the land as tenants in common until the first day of April, 1817, when Stogdell, by deed conveyed the one equal undivided half part in the above tract to his brother John, who then became the absolute owner of

the farm and held it until the 5th day of January, 1837, when Timothy Smith and William Stokes, as administrators of the said John Stokes, deceased, conveyed the same to Wilson Dennis for the consideration of \$9200, who on the same day, for the same consideration, conveyed it to William Stokes, and who in turn on the 27th day of March, 1837, for the consideration of \$11,000, conveyed it to George Dutch. It will therefore be seen that for almost a century this large tract of land was in the possession of the Stokes family, and during the early part of the present century was known as "Stokes' Meadows." While in the possession of this family, large numbers of cattle were raised upon it, which was the principle business of the Stokes, the land being especially adapted for that purpose, and from which they realized a handsome profit. This farm is not without some historical interest, as it is said that when General Sullivan made his celebrated march into New York State to chastise the Indians after the Wyoming massacre in 1778, the expedition spent some time on this farm and Susan Stokes, the wife of John Stokes, the second, frequently related to her friends, how when she was a young wife and lived upon this farm during the Revolutionary War, she drove the pasturing horses into the woods to keep them out of the clutches of the soldiers, who were scouring the country for animals.

George Dutch, who became the owner of the farm in 1837, was a New Englander by birth and education, having been born in Salem, Mass., and was a sea captain by occupation. For many years he was engaged in commerce with South America and relinquished that business in 1826, when he came to New York to live. Here he was a large owner of very valuable real estate and became very wealthy. Mr. Dutch was a large, fine looking man, arbitrary and dictatorial in his manner, but was always regarded as a gentleman. He died about 1868 in Bethlehem, Pa., where he lived with his family for some years prior to his death. About one year after he bought the Stokes farm he conceived the idea of building a mansion upon it. The old farm house, which is still standing, slightly mellowed by the hand of time, now more than a century old, was not adapted to his taste, and besides he desired that this large farm, for some time to come, should be the home of his son. This son, George F. Dutch, at that time was a bright, intelligent young man, erratic in manner and visionary in purpose. He had been quite an extensive reader of novels, and had imbibed, unconsciously, perhaps, a spirit of adventure from the books that he had read. To this quiet and secluded spot his father had brought him away from the temptations of the large city of New York to engage in a pursuit that was entirely foreign to his tastes, and of which he would no doubt soon tire. About one year after the purchase of the farm Mr. Dutch began the erection of the mansion. The site selected was on a small knoll, surrounded at that time by a large grove of magnificent trees, overlooking a beautiful section of mountain and valley scenery.

The house was built after the plan of a house belonging to Garret Gilbert, of New York, and was a model of the old English home. It was built by Samuel

Kachline, of Doylestown, who was the contractor, was probably one hundred feet square, one story in height, surrounded on all sides by large piazzas studded with immense pillars. The roof is slanting, coming to a peak in the centre. The ceilings are very high and the apartments, consisting of parlors, dining and sleeping rooms, very large, and lighted by many large windows on all sides. It was built of the very best material, and when completed was a surprise and world of wonderment to the primitive population of that section of the country, who called it "Dutch's Folly." After its completion, on the 16th day of March, 1842, George Dutch, in consideration of natural love and affection and the nominal sum of one dollar, conveyed the farm, with the mansion upon it, to his son, who moved there and remained upon it several years. But like a spoiled child, he soon became tired of his toys, and being of a roving and eccentric disposition, and the companionship of his neighbors, who were mostly Germans, not being congenial to this city youth, he forsook the home which his indulgent father had built for him, and subsequently spent much of his time abroad. I am informed that a few years ago, unknown and unrecognized, George F. Dutch joined the great army beyond the dark river.

On the 31st of March, 1847, George F. Dutch conveyed the above tract of land with the mansion upon it to Paul and Henry Applebach. The grounds surrounding the mansion were tastefully arranged and additional buildings were erected for the convenience of the owners.

The following year dates the beginning of the village proper, which was laid out along the Old Bethlehem road, then the great thoroughfare between Philadelphia and the Lehigh Valley. The hotel, store and several dwelling houses were erected and the village christened after the names of the founders, who did much for the future prosperity of the town. A post office called Strawtown had been conducted some years prior to this date in a small log building in the upper part of the village, used also as a general store, and William Stokes was the postmaster. It was subsequently removed to the hotel of Nicholas Roudenbush, about a mile below the village and he was appointed the postmaster. On the eighth day of May, 1852, the office was moved to the hotel at Applebachville, the name changed to "Applebachville," and John Stover was appointed postmaster. By 1855 the village had become an established fact and the residents of the village, together with those of the immediate vicinity, recognizing the necessity and importance of public worship, erected a building suitable for that purpose, and on the 27th of May, 1855, the cornerstone of this sacred edifice was laid for the use of the German Evangelical Lutheran and Reformed and Mennonite denominations, and was called Applebachville Church. The first Reformed pastor was the Rev. Samuel Hess, of Heltown, and the first Lutheran pastor, Rev. Mr. Miller, both of whom are now deceased. The building committee consisted of Paul Applebach, Joseph Mann, William Applebach, John Sames and Jared Apple. In 1880 the church was remodelled and put in its present condition.

The first school house was a small

stone building, which was erected about 1852, a short distance north of the village, and Dr. Nelson Applebach was one of the first teachers. This building was torn down in 1862 and a commodious two-story brick building erected in its place and Rev. Dr. John S. Stahr, now president of F. and M. College at Lancaster, Pa., was one of the first teachers, and to his untiring efforts in behalf of popular education, most of the success of the school is due. From 1850 to 1860 about twenty dwellings were erected, and I can give no better description of the village as it appeared from that time until about 1872, when its founder died, than to adopt what John P. Rogers, of Doylestown, said of it in 1871: "Turning towards the town we count at random, within view, on street or nearby in neighborhood, say a score of buildings, occupied as private residences, put up for comfort and convenience, plain and unpretending, yet neat and inviting in appearance. These are mostly constructed of brick, similar in size and structure, green lawns in front, productive gardens in the rear, superbly shaded, and avenues fragrant with flowers."

For several years prior to the war the upper districts of Bucks county were famous for military organizations, which were well equipped and well instructed in military training as the manual of drill and manoeuvre in the field were at that time understood and taught. A military spirit had been encouraged by numerous legislative enactments passed to organize the general militia of the State. All able-bodied male citizens from the age of eighteen years to forty-five years were enrolled and required to muster twice a year or be subject to a fine of about one dollar per annum. Provision was made for uniformed companies, and the fines were employed in supporting and encouraging these uniformed volunteer companies. Through the courtesy of Dr. Joseph Thomas, of Quakertown, Pa., I have been furnished with the following facts in relation to the military company that was organized at Applebachville shortly before the War of the Rebellion, and which occupied an

Literary and Historical Association, held at Applebachville, June 9, 1894:

It is among the pleasantest things in this very beautiful world to find an opportunity to tell an audience like the one before me to-day some incidents and facts occurring in our earlier years. As I was striving a few weeks ago to collect my thoughts, thereby to fulfil a promise made to the secretary of the Buckwampun Literary Association, to get out a brief paper under the above head, memory brought to my mental vision the beautiful home of my childhood days and the words of the poet Wordsworth:

"How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,

When fond recollections present them to view—

The fountain, the meadow, the deep tangled wildwood,

And every loved spot which my infancy knew.

The cot of my father, the dairy house night,

And e'en the rude bucket that hung in the well.

The old oaken bucket, the iron-bound bucket,

The moss-covered bucket that hung in the well."

My first appearance upon the stage of life was on the 17th day of June, 1817, at 10 o'clock in the morning. My reason for being so explicit about it is that it was the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, and in order to duly honor the day it was found necessary to commence early, and I can assure you it was very appropriately celebrated at our house. The place, Princeton, New Jersey, was one of the most beautiful towns in that celebrated State. Here was founded that notable institution of learning, the College of New Jersey, known throughout the world as Nassau Hall. Seventy years ago, and for some years previous, Dr. (I think his name was James) Carnahan was president.

Young men from all the civilized and half civilized countries of the globe, have here received a classical education, and have gone forth to bless the world with the knowledge thus attained.

Here also is located that celebrated Theological Seminary, where those desirous of entering the ministry, are taught to expound the scriptures in the light of Presbyterianism. Here are also to be found seminaries for the education of youth of both sexes, of the very highest order. Edge Hill Seminary has a world-wide reputation. It was founded by the Rev. John S. Hart, (a graduate of Nassau Hall and also of Princeton Seminary,) between the years 1828 and 1832, (I speak from memory alone.)

Mr. Hart in after years became the principal of the Philadelphia High School, where, I think, he remained until his decease. In the short time allotted on this occasion it will be necessary to pass over those youthful enjoyments which naturally press themselves upon the mind, and speak of places and modes of travel as they were seventy years ago. On the line from Philadelphia to New York there are five cities and towns, with which I had become familiar, viz.: Trenton, Princeton, Queenstown, Kingston and New Brunswick.

Trenton is situated at the head of navigation on the Delaware river 40 miles by water and 30 miles by land at Philadelphia, and is the capital of the State;

From, *Intelligencer*

Doylestown Pa.

Date, *July 16th 1894.*

CHANGES OF A LIFE TIME.

REMINISCENCES OF SEVENTY YEARS AGO.

Little National and Domestic Peculiarities and Interesting Gossip of Ye Olden Days—Honor to General Lafayette—A Sailor's Revenge.

Spencer L. Hudnut, of Riegelsville, read the following interesting paper at the annual meeting of the Buckwampun

Princeton, ten miles from Trenton; Queenstown, one mile from Princeton; Kingston, two miles further on, and New Brunswick thirteen miles. New Brunswick is situated on the Raritan river, and like Trenton, also at the head of navigation. Rutgers College is located there, and is at this day a popular institution. I am reminded of an incident that occurred there in 1833, when I was 16 years of age. A whirlwind commenced between Somerville and Millstone, and gathered force as it swept on towards New Brunswick. Arriving there, it unroofed a number of houses, doing considerable damage through the length of the town, and about the width of two blocks or squares as they are called in Philadelphia. Just after entering the city it caught up a small boy and carried him over the tops of the houses, whirling him round and around. His father, who saw him taken up, followed after as best he could, fearful of finding him dashed to pieces, but to his joy, and also of others who had watched his course, he was landed safely upon a storehouse wharf at the lower end of the city. When asked about his experience, he said he felt as if a number of men were trying to pull him to pieces. From New Brunswick to New York by water is forty-one miles. I do not know the distance by land, but I think about thirty-two miles, so that in the olden time, by land and water it was about ninety-seven miles from city to city. The mode of travel in summer was by steamboat and stage, by steamboat from Philadelphia to Trenton, then by stage from Trenton to New Brunswick, and by steamboat again, from New Brunswick to New York, landing at pier No. 1 adjoining the battery above Castle Garden. The cabin was well supplied with berths, so that all who wished could enjoy a comfortable rest. The time required to make the trip was from fourteen to sixteen hours. Sometimes the stages arrived so late in New Brunswick as to make it necessary for passengers to remain over night. Traveling in those days was very expensive, I think the fare from one city to the other was \$5 exclusive of meals. The bodies of the coaches were made oval, with front, back and middle seats, and were designed to seat comfortably ten to twelve persons, and there was room for two more outside with the driver. The body rested upon two heavy belts, one on each side, supported by four upright springs, two on each side. An iron or brass frame surrounded the top to enable them to carry light articles with safety. A large sack was placed behind called a boot, in which all the heavy luggage was placed, and was protected on each side by leather curtains. A large apron of the same material covered the top, and powerful leather straps supported the whole. The proprietor of the line of stages was named Reeside.

The population of New York seventy years ago, was about 75,000 to 80,000. The city was compactly built as far up as Carlton street, five blocks above Canal street, on the west side of Broadway, but Canal street was always called the upper part of the city, and shops (principally occupied by Jews,) containing various articles of merchandise lined the north side of the street from Broadway to Greenwich street. Hudson street running north from Canal street about half way between Broadway and

Greenwich streets was the great millinery mart. Here the matrons and the maidens procured the loveliest of coal scuttle bonnets, so much admired in that day. The west side of this street was lined with these stores from Canal to Carlton street, about five blocks. The territory above that was called "Greenwich village." About a quarter of a mile further up, and we come to Christopher street, at the foot of which (on Greenwich street) stood the Old State Prison, which was finally removed to Sing Sing.

One peculiarity of Young America seventy years ago, and by which you could detect an American anywhere even exclusive of his chewing tobacco, the long nap on his medium high hat, or his bold strutting gait, was his custom of whittling—that is cutting shavings from a stick with a penknife. Indeed seventy years ago all Americans whittled in storm, whittled in a calm, they whittled while awake, and their most esteemed dreams were those in which imagination employed the penknife.

The two indispensable requisites to be seen in every well regulated family was the sideboard, with its beautiful cut glass decanters, arranged across the top, containing the choicest spirituous liquors, including wines and cordials. Drinking was a universal custom; the exceptions were few. Upon entertaining a house, previous to being seated, you would be invited to the sideboard to partake of its refreshments. Should your entertainer do otherwise, it would be considered a gross insult. The ladies would be correspondingly regaled by the mistress of the house. The other a lot of fine sticks with penknife for whittlers accommodation.

I am almost ashamed of this kind of gossip, but it seems these little national and domestic peculiarities of 70 years ago are crowding themselves forward in the realms of memory.

There was one other custom peculiar to the people of that day, which it may not be amiss to mention. Each family provided itself with a glass bottle or jar, not less than six inches in diameter and from eight to twelve inches high. It was filled half way up with garlic and then applejack was poured in until the jar was full. A certain amount was sweetened with sugar every morning before breakfast, and the children were given one or two teaspoonsful according to age. This was to kill the worms, but becoming more matured as the years rolled on, the old folks took theirs straight.

On the 18th of August, 1824, occurred the landing of Lafayette. This was an eventful occasion. Every available space in the street, upon the stoops, on the house tops, in the trees, windows and balconies was one mass of humanity. There was a military and civic procession on horseback and on foot. The different trades on platforms and wagons exhibited their skill as they passed along. Standing upon a high stoop, under the care of my mother, as it passed along Canal street, my youthful imagination was raised to the highest pitch, and I lustily joined in the great din, honoring the gallant soldier.

On the first of May of each and every year it was the custom of the Sunday schools to meet and have a social time at Castle Garden. This was originally a fort, but had been dismantled, and at this time was used as a pleasure resort.

The seats were arranged one above another, forming a circle around the inside. Each school had practiced the same hymns so that between 3,000 and 4,000 youthful voices swelled the songs of praise to God our Heavenly Father, for all the blessings He bestows upon us, and to Jesus His dearly beloved Son, who when upon earth took little children in His arms and blessed them. Addresses were also delivered by distinguished clergymen. As the schools passed out, after being dismissed, through the gate at the end of the bridge, for the fort was and is now surrounded by water, a couple of small books were given to each scholar. Refreshments were served upon their return to the various school rooms.

Time will not permit to give a description of the mode of conducting schools of the highest grade—for public schools, such as we have now, were not in existence then. But this I will say: The rod was used unsparingly for the most trivial offence. Sextons carried a rattan and if boys misbehaved in church he applied it according to the advice given by Solomon, "spare not the rod." I have seen boys flogged in church whilst the minister was in the midst of his sermon.

We will now turn back and take a bird's-eye view of the lower part of the city. At the foot of Broadway is a small oval park called Bowling Green. From this the street curves to the left and sweeps around in a half circle to the right until it reaches the Battery. This was the fashionable quarter, and a charming place it was. It had a front view of both river and bay. On our return up Broadway we pass Old Trinity Church, opposite Wall street, where Mammon has worshipped for the last century and is now said to be worth between \$80,000,000 and \$100,000,000. A short distance further up and we arrive at the park. (The only one in the city at that time). It is triangular in form, contained a number of public buildings, the principal of which was the city hall, a very large, magnificent building, built of white marble, and in which all the city offices were located. At that time the police department had no existence.

The city was guarded by a high constable and his subordinates, and at night by watchmen with a captain at their head. The name of the high constable in those days was Jacob Hays, known by the cognomen of "Old Hays." He was a terror to evil-doers and none feared him more than the boys, for he broke up their rough plays, cut their kite strings when opportunity offered, and in our estimation, made himself a nuisance generally. But I will now do justice to his memory by saying he was a good, faithful officer. But I have digressed somewhat from my subject. The lot on which the city hall stands is triangular in form, and bounded on the north by Chambers street, on the southeast by Chatham street, on the west by Broadway, and runs to a point at the junction of Broadway and Chatham street. There also stood in the park two buildings built of English brick, and having iron barred windows. One was Bridwell where persons having charges against them were confined previous to trial. It may also have contained the debtors department, (for imprisonment for debt was lawful in those days.) The jail was used for the punishment of petty offences, and for the safe keeping of convicts until their removal to the State Prison. Back of the city hall, on the north side, was a very large

frame building, where Pearl Street Fair was located and was a place of popular resort. A large, round building, called the Coleseum, faced on Chambers street, about half way between Broadway and Chatham Square.

In those days lotteries were permitted by law and were drawn every Wednesday afternoon on the city hall portico, in the presence of anxious thousands. A row of lottery offices extended from Chambers street (on Broadway) to the spot on which the Astor House now stands. The principal fancy store of that day was located at the northwest corner of Broadway and Chambers street, kept by Joseph Bonfanti, where, for things of use and things for sport, the gay and curious were wont to resort. The most popular book store was kept by a Mr. Jansen, but I do not remember where it stood. Pearl street, in the lower part of the city, was the principal retail street in that section of the city, although a good business was done on Fulton and John streets.

Brooklyn, seventy years ago, (with the exception of the navy yard) existed only in name. A small one-story building stood near the wharf where the horse boats landed. The wharf was a small affair, extending out into the water about ten or twelve feet, and perhaps of the same width. The boats being built with flat bottoms did not require over two or three feet of water at the landing. I have often seen the horse shoes sporting on each side of the wharf on the sandy bottom. There were steamboats in those days, but all the ferry boats on the North and East rivers were propelled by horse power.

From the boat landing a footpath about half a mile long led up to the navy yard, and I think a few houses stood near the outer gate, occupied by the employees of the yard. I was a frequent visitor at the yard, for a cousin of my mother was an officer in the navy, and at that time attached to the U. S. Frigate Fulton. His sisters were pleased on frequent occasions to send him some token of affection and I was invariably chosen as the happy messenger. This vessel was blown up as near as I can remember about 1825 or 1826. The commodore had been on board witnessing the flogging of some of the men, one of whom was the powder man. It was about time to fire the three o'clock gun. The commodore had taken but a few steps after going upon the wharf, when there was a loud report, which he thought was the gun, but when the smoke cleared away the whole interior of the vessel was seen to have been blown out, leaving the outer walls of the hull standing. It was thought the powder man fired the magazine in order to be avenged on the commodore for the whipping he had received. A word or two more and I will close.

By the blessing of God I have been permitted to pass the usual bounds of life. I presume a fair share of the enjoyments of the world has been allotted me, and I want to say right here, with the love of God in the heart, an hour spent with a little band of His chosen ones, in a prayer and conference meeting, will be found more real tangible and enduring happiness than a life time spent in seeking after the pleasures of the world. And now as I am rapidly passing down the ladder of life—

20
Oft in the stillness of the night,
Ere slumber's chain has bound me,
Fond memory brings the light
Of other days around me;
The smiles, the tears, of boyhood years,
The words of love then spoken,
The eyes that shone, now dimmed and
gone,
The cheerful hearts now broken.

When I remember all the friends so
linked together,
I've seen around me fall,
Like leaves in wintry weather,
I feel like one that treads alone
Some banquet hall deserted;
Whose lights are fled, whose garlands
dead,
And all but he departed.

From, *Democrat*
Doylestown Pa.
Date, *July 20* 1894.

THE BATTLE OF THE CROOKED BILLET.

A SPIRITED ACTION BETWEEN
THE AMERICANS AND BRITISH.

Read Before the Inter-County Historical Meeting at Hatboro, Montgomery County, July 17, 1894, by
W. W. H. Davis.

The Delaware-Schuylkill peninsula, including both banks of these rivers, is richer in Revolutionary history than any other section of the country. The war was almost fought within these narrow limits; it was the alpha and omega of the movement that gave constitutional government to America. Here the war for independence was given form and substance by that immortal Declaration, which electrified the world by announcing that "all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

As the war progressed, this peninsula was repeatedly traversed by the Continental Army with Washington at its head; and, in the dark days of December, 1776, when driven out of New Jersey, it sought shelter behind the friendly waters of the Delaware, whence it turned on the foe and gained the victories at Trenton and Princeton. On four occasions the army crossed this peninsula immediately preceding, or following, important events in the war; in 1777, to open the campaign of Brandywine and Germantown; in 1778, to strike the enemy in flank at Monmouth while escaping from Philadelphia to New York; in 1781, on its march to

cross swords with Cornwallis at Yorktown; and, after his surrender, it returned by the same route later in the Fall. At the close of the war, delegates assembled at the capital city of this peninsula and formed that constitution which welded thirteen feeble colonies into the most powerful nation of the world; and here was established the capital of the infant republic, and the new government successfully launched on its career of greatness.

Starting from this village, a pedestrian of ordinary power, can walk to any one of eight battle fields of the Revolution in a single day; Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Paoli, Germantown, Fort Mifflin, Red Bank and Monmouth, not to mention the Crooked Billet. In addition to these fields is Valley Forge, where more courage was required than in any battle of the war. I repeat, that no section of the country is so rich in Revolutionary history and incident as this peninsula.

The Fall and Winter of 1777-78 were among the most trying periods of the war. The preceding campaign had been disastrous to our arms. Defeated at Brandywine; forced to retreat at Germantown in the moment of victory; the fall of Fort Mifflin and Red Bank, the keys to the Delaware, and the enemy in possession of Philadelphia, military operations closed with little apparent hope for the cause of the Colonies. As the Winter set in Washington marched with his ragged battalions to the bleak hills of Valley Forge, where he encountered a more inexorable foe than British bayonet or Hessian sabre.

Washington, finding it necessary to have this peninsula guarded by a military force to prevent supplies reaching the enemy at Philadelphia, he placed it in command of John Lacey, a Bucks county Quaker, Brigadier General of militia. He had seen service as Captain in Wayne's regiment on the Canada frontiers, and was esteemed an excellent officer. He entered upon duty in January, 1778, under special instructions from the Commander-in-Chief. He was active during the Winter and Spring, with a force never large enough for the duty required of him, patrolling the country and trying to prevent intercourse with the city. He was constantly moving, and we find his headquarters, in turn, at Græme Park on the County Line, Rodman's farm, now the Bucks County Almshouse property, at Doylestown, the Crooked Billet, and at other places. Despite all his efforts to break up intercourse between city and country, it had become so frequent by the end of March it was seriously contemplated to depopulate the country between the Delaware and Schuylkill for the distance of fifteen miles, but the plan failed to receive Washington's approval. He had frequent encounters with the enemy, sometimes meeting with loss.

Near the close of April we find Lacey moving down the York Road as far as Edge Hill to watch a party of the enemy, but, learning they had gone to Philadelphia, he returned to the Crooked Billet with his whole force, about 400 militia. He encamped in a wood owned by Samuel Irvine, on the east side of the York Road, at the upper end of the village, the right resting on the road and facing south. Lacey quartered in a stone house, on the opposite side of the road, owned by one Gilbert, many years the home of the late John M. Hoagland, and now the

property of Thomas Reading. Here he was attacked at daylight May 1, by a large body of British, suffered considerable loss in killed, wounded and prisoners, and was obliged to fall back a couple of miles. He had taken the ordinary precautions to prevent surprise, but his orders were not carried out. The evening before he was joined by a body of unarmed militia.

General Howe, the British Commander, had it in contemplation to attack and disperse Lacey's force, and Major Simcoe, the Commander of the Queen's Rangers, a refuge corps, was charged with making the arrangements. He was familiar with the country, having traversed it in most directions; and had sent spies into Lacey's neighborhood, and had all his movements watched. He learned that Lacey expected to be at the Billet May 1, and gained other information that would be of value, which was reported to General Howe with his plans. They were approved and the expedition ordered. In addition to the Queen's Rangers a considerable body of cavalry and light infantry was detailed, and spare horses were to be taken along to mount the infantry should that be necessary; the whole to be under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Abercrombie. The time fixed was May 1, and the troops were ordered to hold themselves in readiness.

The following plan of attack was agreed upon. The British were to reach the vi-

cinity of Lacey's Camp at daylight. The Queen's Rangers were to attack his left flank and rear, which, if successful, would prevent him falling back to the hills of Neshaminy; while a body, to be placed in ambush on the road leading from the Billet to Horsham Meeting House, would cut off his retreat to the main Army at Valley Forge. Simcoe was to bring on the attack, and, when the firing of the Rangers was heard, a third body was to move up the York Road through the Billett, and attack Lacey's Camp in front. This would place the Americans between two fires, and, it was thought by acting in concert, their object could be accomplished without difficulty.

The British troops left Philadelphia on the afternoon of April 30, with guides acquainted with the country. They marched out Second street, and up the Middle, or Oxford, road through the Fox Chase to Huntingdon Valley. Here the force was divided, the main body, composed of light infantry and cavalry and commanded by Abercrombie in person, marching by the nearest route to the York Road and thence to the place of the proposed ambuscade. Simcoe with the Queen's Rangers and some cavalry, continued up the Middle road above the Sorrel Horse tavern; turned into the Byberry road, and along it to Lloyd's Corner; then turned to the right into the road leading from the Willow Grove to the County Line; now changed to the left, at Bean's Corner, now Kimball's, and came into the County Line a short distance above where the old "eight-square" school house stood. In a few hundred yards they took to the fields across the farm of Isaac Boileau the nearest way to the Billet.

During the night Simcoe fell in with Captain Thomas' company of armed refugees and barely escaped an encounter with them. The enemy was so anxious to capture Lacey, spies were placed in the trees about his quarters to watch his

movements; and Captain Kerr, who marched with Simcoe, was ordered to seize and hold Lacey's quarters with his detachment of horse as a rallying point. The enemy marched with all possible speed but daylight appeared before Simcoe reached Lacey's camp. He had escaped all the patrols.

I have stated that Lacey took the necessary precautions to prevent surprise. He gave orders the evening before for the patrols to leave camp at 3 o'clock, but it was near daylight before they left. Lieutenant Neilson, who took the road to Horsham, came within sight of the cavalry and light infantry in a mile, and sent a soldier back to camp to give the alarm. He found the militia paraded. The patrol under Lieutenant Laughlin returned to camp after a scout of a couple of miles without discovering the enemy, but heard firing before getting back.

Abercrombie, fearing he should not be in time to support Simcoe's attack, detached a part of the cavalry and the mounted infantry to the place of ambush, while he marched up the York Road with the main body to strike Lacey in front. From the way Lacey was hemmed in, Abercrombie probably sent a detachment up the Easton Road to turn his right flank and fall upon his rear in concert with the Queen's Rangers. They must have come into the York Road where the County Line crosses it, and where the cavalry that attacked Lacey's left soon after he began his retreat. General Lacey states in his report to General Armstrong, that one detachment of the enemy passed the cross roads in his rear before his scouts got there.

The enemy was within 200 yards of Lacey's camp when first discovered. He was in bed, but dressed in a hurry, mounted his horse and joined his command. It is charged that he carried part of his clothes in his hands. The enemy, in his front and rear, opened fire about this time, being sheltered by the houses and fences. Seeing himself nearly surrounded, and the enemy's force superior to his own, Lacey ordered a retreat, moving by column to the left in the direction of a wood across open fields, the wagons following, and in full view of the enemy in pursuit. He states that when he emerged into the open fields, and a body of the enemy's horse appeared in front, his men gave him an anxious look, as if asking him what they should do. He ordered them to "deliver their fire and push on." His flanking parties now began exchanging shots with the enemy, and were soon hotly engaged.

Lacey moved across the fields in tolerable order to the wood, probably the tract that belongs to the late William K. Goentner's estate. Here he made a stand. By this time the several parties of the enemy had come up, and attacked him on all sides. He says in his report to Washington: "I kept moving on till I made the wood, when the party of both horse and foot came up the Byberry road and attacked my right flank; the party from the Billet fell upon my rear; the horse from the rear of my camp came upon my left flank, and a body of horse appeared directly in front." The situation of things shows that Lacey was surrounded, and his position critical. The enemy now began to concentrate on the wood, and General Lacey being much exposed, and having already suffered considerable loss, thought it safer to move

on, which he did with the loss of all his baggage.

The force which appeared on Lacey's right flank and front, about the time he reached the wood, was Simcoe's rangers and cavalry. When Simcoe left the County Line and struck across the fields directly for the Billet, and, while explaining to his officers his plan of attack, hearing firing in the direction of Abercrombie's detachment, he exclaimed, "The dragoons have discovered us," and pushed on at a rapid pace to join in the action. He came up on the right flank of the retreating Americans, as already stated, intercepting on his march some small parties of fleeing militiamen, several of whom were killed. He dispatched a party of cavalry to intercept Lacey's baggage, and captured it while crossing the fields. While the Americans were marching through the wood, Simcoe resorted to a *ruse*, thinking it might induce them to lay down their arms. Riding within halting distance he ordered them to surrender, and, as they did not halt, he gave, in a loud tone, the commands, "Make ready, present, fire," to deceive them into the belief that he had a body of troops with him. In this he was disappointed; they continued to move on, paying no other attention to him than bowing their heads at the word "fire." The retreating Americans were pursued for a couple of miles, skirmishing with the enemy, an occasional man falling. They passed across the farm of Thomas Craven and by the present Johnsville to near the Bristol Road, when they turned to the left into a wood, when pursuit was relinquished. Entering the York Road near Hartsville, Lacey moved down towards the scene of the late conflict, hoping to find the enemy off his guard in the hour of victory, but he had retired, carrying his wounded and most of his killed with him.

The loss was not heavy on either side, and that of the British not accurately known. General Lacey reports 26 killed and 8 or 10 wounded, most of which fell while crossing the open fields. Several were taken prisoners. Lacey lost three officers killed, two with the patrols, and Captain Downey, acting commissary of subsistence. The latter had taught school in Philadelphia, and rendered valuable services in the war; among other duties making a military survey of the Delaware. He was first wounded in the shoulder, and afterward bayoneted and hacked in a brutal manner. The loss of the enemy is still more uncertain, as he carried most of his killed, and all his wounded, away with him. He left five dead bodies on the field. A field officer is supposed to have been killed, and another officer was so badly wounded in the knee he was carried to the farm house of Thomas Craven where his wound was dressed. In the report of Major Simcoe he admits some of his rangers were wounded, and says the shoe buckles of Captain McGill probably saved the life of that officer. The Americans were buried in one grave above Craven's Corner and near the County Line; the wounded were taken to the house of Thomas Craven and treated there until able to be removed. After burying the dead and caring for the wounded, General Lacey fell back to the north bank of the Neshaminy above the Cross Roads, now Hartsville. The captured baggage was taken to Philadelphia and sold, the proceeds being divided among the soldiers of the expedition,

yielding about a dollar to each man.

The British are charged with extreme cruelty to our wounded at the Crooked Billet, which I faintly would disbelieve for the sake of humanity and the credit of the English name, but the evidence is conclusive, and the witnesses unimpeached. In a field on the Craven farm, and near the County Line was a large pile of buckwheat straw. Garret Krewson, a respectable man living in the neighborhood, says several of our fatigued militiamen crept into this straw about sunrise; that a tory told the British, and they set fire to the straw while our men were asleep. Some were burnt to death, and others so badly burned they died shortly afterward. Several of our wounded, who had crept into the straw for shelter, were likewise burned by the enemy. General Lacey in a letter to General Armstrong, under date of May 7, writes:

"Many of the unfortunates, who fell into the merciless hands of the British, were cruelly and inhumanly butchered. Some were set on fire with buckwheat straw, and others had their clothes burned on their backs. Some of the surviving sufferers say they saw the enemy set fire to the wounded while they were yet alive, but struggled to put it out, but were too weak, and expired under the torture. I saw those lying in the buckwheat straw; they made a most melancholy appearance. Others, I saw, who, after being wounded by a ball, had received near a dozen wounds with cutlasses and bayonets. I can find as many witnesses to the proof of these cruelties as there were people on the spot, and that was no small number who came as spectators."

After the British returned from pursuit of the Americans, they visited several houses, mainly in quest of something to eat. There was little plundering, but general consternation prevailed. A small party went to the dwelling of David Marple, an aged man, grandfather of the late Colonel David Marple, and ordered the family to catch and cook the chickens for them. They were not allowed even to spare the setting hens on their nests. The conduct of the enemy was not as bad as is generally witnessed on similar occasions.

In my boyhood the old people of the neighborhood were full of incidents connected with the battle; I listened to their recitals with intense interest, and treasured them up with the greatest care. Captain Baird, an officer in the action, and, I believe, a witness of the affair, said the last British soldier was killed in a wood on the south side of the Bristol Road just above what was then known as "Hart's Corner." He was chasing a militiaman named Vandyke, and had snapped one of his pistols at him. The latter, in his alarm, forgot he was carrying a loaded musket, and was in a fair way of getting a bullet through his head. As the dragoon was about drawing his second pistol, Vandyke thought of his musket, and, taking deliberate aim at the soldier, shot him dead, when, mounting his horse, he rejoined his retreating comrades.

Stephen Beans, father of the late Robert Beans, related substantially the same story, as told him by a son of Thomas Craven, who said he saw a trooper shot near a wood on the John Mentz farm, and within sight of the Craven homestead. He was leading his

father's horses to the wood to conceal them, when he saw a militiaman rest his gun on a fence, aim at his pursuer, and shoot him from his horse; that the horse—dun colored, with a black stripe down his back—ran to his horses, was caught by him, and taken by the militiaman, who mounted and rode away. Mr. Beans related another incident that occurred, under his own observation. His parents lived at the old Beans homestead opposite the lane of Harman, now Stephen, Yerkes on the Street Road. All the men being absent, either with the militia or hiding the stock, his mother took him, then a small boy, down to the Yerkes house, which then consisted of the small end of the present building. During Lacey's retreat a tired militiaman came into the room; said he was closely pursued and wanted to hide under the bed that stood in a corner of the room. The women advised him not to do so, telling him there was a heap of straw in the Bean's barnyard, where he could more safely conceal himself.

He went out the back door, and, by keeping the house between him and his pursuers, reached the straw without being seen. The enemy, four in number, soon entered the house, and demanded where the militiaman was concealed. They refused to accept a denial that he was there, and proceeded to search for themselves, jabbing their bayonets into the very bed in which the militiaman wanted to hide. He returned after a while and thanked the women for his deliverance, saying his pursuers walked over the straw in which he was concealed, and came near bayoneting him. Mr. Beans related this incident in the same room which he saw the militiaman and his British pursuers enter. He also stated that some of the Americans, who were killed were buried on the Parry farm, near the Quaker meeting house.

The last American is said to have been killed while sitting on the fence on the north side of the Bristol road at the end of the road that runs across from Johnsonville. He and a man named Cooper retreated along this road together, and were sitting on the fence resting before entering the timber. Just then a couple of British dragoons, who were pursuing them, raised the little hill beyond where General William W. White lived, and, seeing the two militiamen, one of them fired and Cooper's companion was killed. The blood stains remained on the fence many years.

At that time two men lived in the neighborhood named VanBuskirk; both had the title of Captain, one a Whig, the other a Tory. The British only knew the Whig, whom they had long been anxious to arrest. During the burning of the buckwheat straw, the neighbors collected, and among them the Tory Captain. Hearing him called by name, a British officer asked him if he were Captain VanBuskirk; he answered "Yes," probably expecting a compliment for his services to King George, but he was arrested instead. He said he was not the Captain VanBuskirk they wanted, and asserted his loyalty, but it availed nothing. The neighbors looked smilingly on, thinking it a good joke. He was taken to Philadelphia, thrown into prison and kept there until some one vouched for his loyalty. He was then liberated and apologies made, but this did not heal the wound. Ever after he was as good a Whig as his namesake. The medicine effected a cure.

Soon after Simeoe turned into the cross-road at Lloyd's Corner on his way to the Billet, he halted to get a gulde from the old house on the Kelley farm. A young man put his head out a window and was ordered to dress and come down; and was then threatened with death if he did not show them the way. This he agreed to do if they would give him their fastest horse to ride so he could escape should the "rebels" attempt to capture him. They mounted him on one of their fleetest horses, and, watching his opportunity, put whip to it and escaped. The enemy fired at him but this only increased his speed. This was told me by the late Judge William Watts, when I was a boy; he saw the escaped guide, without hat or coat, riding at the top of his speed, about daylight in the morning, across the breast of the Davisville mill dam.

One of Simeoe's officers left his horse at Isaac Boileau's on the county line in charge of a negro, threatening him with punishment if he let the "rebels" have it, and hastened across the fields with his command. After a while a militiaman came along and compelled the negro to give him the horse, which he mounted and rode off. After the fighting was over the officer returned, and flew into a great rage on finding his horse gone. The alarmed negro explained it as well as he could, but this did not satisfy the Englishman, the slave was arrested and taken along, but released after going a few miles. This was related to me by an eyewitness.

Isaac Tompkins, a small boy at the time, was living with his parents in the old Fretz building, and had a distinct recollection of the day. He had just gotten up, about sunrise, when his sister, who had been sent into the garden to plant cucumber seed, came running into the house shouting "the British are coming," and, on looking out, he saw a body of red-coated dragoons marching up the road. They were part of Abercrombie's command which came across from Horsham Meeting house and attacked Lacey in front.

Nathan Marple, father of the late Colonel David Marple, was then a boy of about sixteen, and lived with his father at the Billet. He heard firing in the morning, and, supposing Lacey's men were getting ready to drill, started across the fields to go to them. He had not gone far, however, when he saw the British dragoons riding across a field toward the camp; they wore cloaks which concealed their red coats. He took warning at what he saw, and returned home. He further related, that he saw an officer ride some distance in front of his men, halt, rise up in his stirrups and look around as if reconnoitering. He immediately heard the report of a gun, and saw the officer fall to the ground, when the horse wheeled round and cantered back to the company.

Nearly forty years ago, Safety Maghee, of Northampton township, Bucks county, then in his ninety-sixth year, related to me the following as his recollection of events connected with the battle of the Crooked Billet. He said:

"In 1778 I was living with my uncle, Thomas Folwell, in Southampton township where Horatio Gates Yerkes lives (now Cornell Hobensack's on the road from Davlsville to Southampton Baptist Meeting House). On the morning of the battle of the Billet, I heard the firing very distinctly, and a black man

named Harry, and myself concluded we would go and see what was going on. I was then about 13 years old. We started from the house and went directly toward where the firing was. When we came near where Johnsville stands, we heard a volley there which brought us to a halt. The firing was in the wood. The British were in pursuit of our militia and chased them along the road from Johnsville to the Bristol road and also through the fields from the street, to the Bristol road. They overtook the militia in the woods near the Street road. When the firing ceased we continued on and found three wounded militiamen near the wood; they appeared to have been wounded by a sword and were much cut and hacked. When we got to them they were groaning greatly. They died in a little while and I understood were buried on the spot. They appeared to be Germans. We then passed on, and in a field near by we saw two horses lying dead; they were British. One of them was shot in the head, and the gun had been put so near the hair was scorched. While we were on the field, Harry picked up a cartouch box that had been dropped or torn off the weaver. Shortly after we met some of the militia returning, and, when they saw the black fellow with the cartouch box they became very much enraged; accused him of robbing the dead, and took it away from him. These dead horses were on the farm of Colonel Hart, now the property of Comly Walker. Soon after this we returned home."

The late Jonathan Delaney, of Warminster, used to relate the following circumstance he witnessed. He was living at the time at Frankford, through which one detachment of the British passed on their return to the city. Among the prisoners was an old man who wore on his shoes a pair of large silver buckles. They attracted the attention of a soldier while marching along the street, who left the ranks and stooped down to pull them off. The old man, who was not disposed to be thus robbed of his property, struck the would-be thief on the head with his fist and knocked him down; the other soldiers, who witnessed the act, giving a loud shout in approval of the prisoner's courage.

The news of the battle soon spread over the country, and many of the inhabitants were so much alarmed they would not venture from home until assured the British had returned to the city. A child of Samuel Flack, who kept the tavern at Doylestown where the Fountain House stands, had previously died, and was to be buried on that day at Neshaminy; but the alarm was such only four persons would venture with the corps to the place of burial. These were two young men and a couple of young women; one of the latter being a Miss Mary Doyle, afterward Mrs. Mitchell and mother of the late Mrs. Nathaniel Cornell, of Doylestown. They were all mounted, the men being armed, one of them carrying the coffin. They rode the fastest horses they could get, so they might be able to escape should the enemy pursue them. When they reached the burying-ground, the two young men dismounted and buried the corps, the two young women remaining on horseback ready to fly at the first alarm. This sad duty discharged the young men remounted, and they all rode home as rapidly as possible. They could see the smoke from the burning buckwheat straw.

A few days after the battle General Lacey ordered a general court martial to try the officers of his scouts and patrols for disobedience and neglect of duty on the morning of the attack. It met at camp on the Neshaminy, May 4, with Colonel Smith, president and William Findley, afterward Governor of the State, Judge Advocate. Lieutenant Neilson was found guilty and dismissed the service, but Ensign Laughlin was acquitted and ordered to rejoin his regiment. The court tried a number of citizens and soldiers for various offences, holding intercourse with the enemy, &c., &c., some were found guilty and sentenced to be whipped, others to be confined in the Lancaster jail.

General Lacey was subjected to severe, and unjust, criticism for the affair at the Crooked Billet, and especially by those hostile to the cause of the Colonies. The attempt to hold him responsible for the reverse he met signally failed and his conduct received the approval of his superiors. His situation was a critical one, and only the coolest judgment and most determined courage of himself and men saved him from the capture of his entire force. He took the necessary precaution to obtain the earliest information of the approach of the enemy and prevent surprise, but his orders were disobeyed. His actions will bear the closest scrutiny. His camp of 400 men was surprised and nearly surrounded; he had raw militia, the enemy were veterans inured to war. Practically, he cut his way out with the small loss of some 35 killed and wounded and a few prisoners. He had to march across an open country most of the distance, fighting every foot of the way, the enemy pressing him at the same time in front and rear and on both flanks. I am astonished he was able to extricate himself at all from his perilous situation; and it seems quite like a miracle he did not fall into the enemy's hands with his entire force. His action was so highly appreciated by the Executive Council of the State, that the Secretary wrote General Lacey on May 16: "Your conduct is highly approved; and your men have justly acquired great reputation by their bravery."

In conclusion, I present a new and interesting incident connected with the battle of the Crooked Billet, and although I had known of it for several years, I only received it in writing on the 13th inst. It came to me in a letter from the Rev. R. W. Luther, D. D., dated Newark, N. J., July 12, 1894. He writes:

"My grandfather, James Luther, was at the Crooked Billet with his brother, William. At the surprise he and his brother were encamped some little distance away from the main body of our troops, with several others guarding a wagon in which was the camp chest with \$800 in silver, together with papers, orders, etc. At some period he was Quartermaster of the Flying Camp, and, from the fact that this money was committed to him, he was probably acting in a similar capacity at this time. This is only conjecture.

"After the surprise, and during the confusion, he and his guard started to escape with the wagon and contents, intending to get to Valley Forge. They laid down a panel of fence and tried to reach a place of woods near by. They had crossed two fields, when, suddenly over the brow of a hill, a company of about seventy British

horsemen appeared and rode down and surrounded them. The guard offered what defence they could, especially my grand uncle William, but soon were forced to surrender. Attracted by the shouts of soldiers when they discovered the money, a group of British officers rode up. As they approached, a trooper was cutting at my grand uncle, who was disarmed, but sheltering himself by seizing the trooper's bridle and dodging under the horse's head. The trooper was enraged by the defence made. As the group of officers rode up, a young officer called out, "has the man surrendered?" The other troopers answered, "He has, my Lord." The young officer ordered the trooper to desist, and when he still cut at my grand uncle, paying no attention to the order, the officer drew a pistol and shot him off his horse. My grand uncle, who was severely wounded, was placed in the saddle, and the whole party were taken to the tavern.

"My grandfather said that so long as they were with the British regulars they had good treatment, but the next day, being put in charge of some Tories, they were stripped of most of their clothing and their shoes, and all their valuables. When they were going into Philadelphia, the Tories congregated at a tavern threw bottles in the road compelling them to walk over the broken glass. My grandfather and his brother were taken to New York; afterward were exchanged, and William died on the return tramp, from hardship and privations in the prisons.

"My grandfather returned to the village of Concord in what is now Franklin county, Pa., to recruit men for his company, and there commanded the force which rescued the village from an attack of Tories and Indians. Subsequently he served during the war.

"I have given you, my dear General, this account as I have heard it many times from my father, he hearing it from my grandfather and his fellow soldiers. Grandfather survived until 1826."

From, *Records*
New Hope Pa.

Date, *July 21st 1894.*



CASPER A. KAUFFMAN.

Biographical Sketch of one of New Hope's Self Made Men.

The overshadowing problem of the hour is the education of the youth. On the elaboration of the details of the solution of this problem the great state of Pennsylvania will this year spend \$5,500,000. In this connection we to-day present our readers with a striking likeness and authentic biographical sketch of the man—Casper Kauffman,—who at once holds the most honorable as well as the most responsible position in New Hope, namely, Chairman of the Board of School Directors.

Casper A. Kauffman was born to Malcolm and Theresa Kauffman in Schlectern, near Frankfort on the Main, Germany, about sixty years ago. Casper enjoyed no educational advantages save a very short time in the public schools of Germany. At the age of nineteen he came to America and went out to his uncle's ranch in Iowa, where he helped to herd cattle. Casper soon returned East and began boating on the Lehigh canal. This he followed but one season, and then he opened a store in Bristol.

In 1865 he moved to New Hope and opened a canal store near the Union Mills where he lived and carried on business for 26 years, when he moved to his present residence on Main street.

At present Casper is engaged with his son, George, in the paper business in Trenton under the name of George H. Kauffman & Co.

Mr. Kauffman was married in 1861 to Mary Rhodes, of Bristol. To them were borne five children:—John, in business in Philadelphia; Mrs. John Velder, of Lambertville; George, in business in Trenton; William, principal of the Green Hill Grammar School, Lambertville; and Mary, attending the New Hope public school.

Mr. Kauffman is a director of the Amwell National Bank. He also owns considerable stock in the Perseverance Paper Mills, of Lambertville.

Casper Kauffman has ever been among the foremost for the advancement of the town. He is one of the largest tax-payers of the Borough and is treasurer of the Improvement Company.

During his residence here he has held several borough offices, among them being Councilman and School Director. To the last named he has

been elected several times, the last being 1894 when he was unanimously chosen President of the Board.

Casper Kauffman is essentially a self-made man. His accumulation of wealth is proof positive that he is an accurate reasoner. In this his career contains a lesson for business men generally, to wit, reason correctly then results can't help being satisfactory.

From, *Intelligencer*
Doylestown Pa.
 Date, *July 31st 1894.*

A RARE OLD RELIC.

A Marriage Certificate 166 Years Old—It Contains the Names of a Number of Old Bucks County Friends.

Through the kindness of O. G. Fawcett, says the Fredericktown, Ohio. *Free Press*, of the date of July 20th, we have been shown a rare old relic in the shape of the marriage certificate of the great-grand-father and great grand-mother of Lydia and Elizabeth Trahern. The certificate is written in elegant hand writing on parchment, and the document is 166 years old, having been executed in Bucks county in the province of Pennsylvania, in 1723. We copy the wording of the priceless heirloom as closely as possible:

WHEREAS William Hibbs and Ann Carter Both of the township of North Hampton In the County of Bucks In the Province of Pennsylvania Having Declared Their Intention of taking each other In Marriage Before Several Public Monthly Meetings of the People Called Quakers In their Public Meeting House In Middletown In the county aforesaid According to the Good order used amongst them, Whose Proceedings there in after Deliberate Consideration thereof, They appearing Clear of all others And Having Consent of Parents relation and parties Concerned.

Their Said proposal of marriage was allowed of by the Said Meetings.

NOW There are to Certify all whom It may Concern That for the full Accomplishing of their Said Intention This Second Day of the Second month In the year of our Lord According to English account One Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Eight, They the Said William Hibbs and Anna Carter appeared In Public assembly of the aforesaid people and others met together for that purpose In their Public Meeting House In Middletown aforesaid,

AND in a solemn manner he ye Said William Hibbs Taking the said Ann Carter by the Hand did In Solemn manner Openly Declare that he did take Her the Said Ann Carter to be his wife Promising by ye Lord's assistance to be unto her a loving and Faithfull Husband untill death Should Separate them. And then and There In the Same Assembly The Said Ann Carter did in like Manner Openly Declare That she did take him ye Said William Hibbs to be Her Husband promising by the Lord's assistance to be unto him a loving and faithful wife until death Should Separate them or words to the Same purpose. AND moreover They the Said William Hibbs and Ann Carter (She according to the Custom of marriage assuming the name of her Husband) Now Ann Hibbs, AS a further Confirmation thereof did then and there to These presents Set their hands. And we Whose names are Hereunder also Subscribed Being present at the Solomization of the Said marriage and Subscription In manner aforesaid, Have witnessed there unto Set our hands The day and year above written.

WILLIAM HIBBS.
 ANN CARTER.

Attached to the foregoing are the names of sixty-six Friends or Quakers as witnesses. The writing is still legible. On the reverse side of the parchment is a record of the births in the family but little of these but the dates can be read. This quaint old certificate together with a pocket book with the date 1766 woven into its fabric, and other keepsakes are being sent by Miss Lydia Trahern to relatives for preservation.

Below are the names attached so far as they can be deciphered:

Thos. Stackhouse, John Stackhouse, John Stackhouse, Jr., John Connor, William Wallton, John Cadwalder, John Cadwalder, Jr., James Wildman, Thomas Wollston, John Wollston, Wm. Buckman, David Wilson, Rich. Sands, Benj. Scott, William George, Cuthbert Hayhurst, Joseph Stackhouse, Thos. Gill, Stephen Sands, Dorothy Stackhouse, Grace Wilson, Ruth Blaker, Jane Stackhouse, Elizabeth Routledge, Agnes Comly, Sarah Cooper, Paul Blaker, Pheby Blaker, Martha Griffith, Sarah Hibbs, Elizabeth Hibbs, Elizabeth Noble, Hannah English, Wm. Noble.

From, *Intelligencer*
Doylestown Pa.
 Date, *Aug. 6th 1894.*

THE OLD WASHINGTON TREE,

At New Hope, Cut Down, And What Became Of It.

The old Washington tree that stood a few feet to the north of the old York road, in New Hope borough, a very graphic and historical account of which

was written by Richard Randolph Parry, an able historian of that borough, and published in the INTELLIGENCER of January 22d, 1894, owing to the owners of the land wishing to erect a building at the place where that famous Revolutionary tree stood, was ordered cut down, and so insignificant to them was its bodily product, so little value the tree that Washington, the Father of our great country, it is said, stood under and met his Generals Green and Alexander (Lord Stirling), and planned the battle of Trenton, that they even offered 'Squire Eastburn, now of "Inghamdale," near Ingham Spring, the sum of \$15 to remove it from off the property. 'Squire Eastburn accepted the proffered sum and on the 28th day of November the historic tree was razed to the ground by Mr. Moore, a colored man, cut into fire-wood size and hauled to his home, without the slightest inclination manifested on the part of any of reputed collectors of relics and mementoes to procure or retain any portion thereof.

Fortunately before its entire consumption as fuel, George A. Hicks, of Philadelphia, a native born citizen of Bucks county, and a lineal descendant of the noted Quaker, Robert Hicks, the ancestor of the entire Hicks family in America, who arrived in the ship "Fortune" at Plymouth, Mass., from London, on the 11th of November, 1621, immediately after the "Mayflower," and who has been sojourning for several weeks past at the "Loganvale" mansion at Ingham Spring, kept by Mrs. Charles J. Price, hearing of the obliteration of the old Washington tree, and being a lover and collector of historic reminiscences, and learning of its whereabouts, quickly had Mr. Price hitch up his team and convey him to the colored man's home, where he arrived in time to select and purchase only enough material from the remaining parts of the once mammoth tree that measured twenty-two feet in diameter to make sixteen canes therefrom. The material was promptly taken to New Hope where Carpenter Frank Booz turned the pieces into beautiful canes of nicely proportioned sizes. After they had received the finishing touches of oil and a ferrel placed on the end of each Mr. Hicks presented them to his friends whom he knew would appreciate and value them for their historic associations, which was his desire from the time he first heard of the demolition of the old Washington tree. He also presented one to Alfred Paschall, secretary of the Bucks County Historical Society, who received it on behalf of the society.

From, *Intelligencer*

Doylestown Pa.

Date, *Aug. 13" 1894,*

ROBERT MORRIS, THE FINANCIER OF THE REVOLUTION.

Read Before the Inter-County Historical
Meeting, July 17, 1894, by Rev. D.
K. Turner.

Benefactors of their country do not always receive due honor from their countrymen. John Fitch, the first inventor, who successfully applied the use of steam to navigation, was for generations forgotten, and his claims to recognition have never been adequately allowed by more than a few. Probably no one is mentioned on the pages of American history except Washington, to whom we are more indebted for the final result of the Revolutionary struggle than to Robert Morris, whose wisdom and foresight as a financier were of incalculable value in guiding the ship of State through a sea of difficulties, which threatened to engulf it.

As he owned and managed for a considerable period an extensive estate in Bucks county, and founded one of its towns, which bears his name, it may not be amiss to dwell briefly on this occasion upon his life and character.

His father, whose surname was likewise Robert, resided in Liverpool, England, and was taught the trade of a nail-maker, but had a partiality for mercantile pursuits, which the son seems to have inherited. When the latter was a boy of six years old, the family removed to America and settled on the eastern shore of Maryland. They had been in the New World about ten years when the father made a social visit to a vessel in the harbor, and on his taking leave a salute was fired from a cannon in his honor. The wadding struck him in the arm, causing a wound which proved fatal. This occurred in 1750, when Robert, Jr., was 16 years of age. Some time before this he was placed in the counting house of Charles Willing, of Philadelphia, where he soon displayed unusual industry and enterprise. In a few years a change took place in the firm and he entered into partnership with Thomas Willing and engaged in foreign and domestic trade. He made several voyages across the ocean as supercargo, in one of which during the seven years war between France and England he was captured by the French and detained a long time as a prisoner. While in confinement he earned some money by repairing a watch, which he used in paying his passage home.

In 1769, when he was thirty-five years old, he married Mary White, a sister of Rev. William White, D. D., the first bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania, and chaplain to the Continental Congress. Before her marriage she is pictured in a fascinating light in a poem written by Joseph Shippen, on the belles of Philadelphia, indicating that she was sprightly and beautiful.

"In lovely White's most pleasing form,
What various graces meet;
How blest with every striking charm,
How languishingly sweet."

Mr. Morris was successful in business and had acquired a considerable fortune and a high reputation for ability in commercial transactions when the efforts of the British Parliament to oppress the colonies began to arouse their indignant opposition. In 1765 the Stamp Act was passed. This was a measure to raise revenue from America, requiring that legal documents, bonds, deeds and contracts should be written on stamped pa-

per or parchment, which must be purchased from the Royal Government. The colonists insisted that England had no right to lay taxes of any kind upon them without their consent. As they had no representatives in Parliament they declared they could not be justly compelled to pay anything into the King's treasury, unless they chose to do so. All the payments they had heretofore made were in their view voluntary contributions. To this new act they would not submit. On the day it was to go into operation the people manifested their grief and displeasure in the most decided manner. In Boston, Philadelphia and other cities the bells on the churches were muffled and tolled as if for a funeral, cannon were fired, flags were put at half mast for the death of liberty, processions paraded through the streets and orations were delivered against the tyranny of the ministry. In many places the stamps themselves were seized or were prevented from being landed; the stamp officers were obliged to resign or hide to escape the vengeance of the populace, and at the same time numerous associations were formed by merchants, who agreed not to import goods from Britain until the odious act was repealed. In these displays of indignation against that measure Robert Morris fully sympathized. He signed the non-importation agreement, though this course resulted in interruption of his business and severe pecuniary loss, and he was on a committee of citizens to compel John Hughes, the collector in Philadelphia, to desist from collecting the stamp tax. His standing in the city for energy and efficiency was almost unequalled, and in 1766, when still a young man, he was appointed warden of the port.

At the commencement of the struggle with the mother country he was forty-one years of age, and the commercial house, of which he was the head, occupied the first rank in wealth and the extent of its operations at home and abroad. During the long hostilities he took part in nearly all the proceedings of the United States, except those that were of a military character, and even in these he exercised much influence.

There was then no proper treasury of the general government. Congress, the highest legislative authority in the land, passed bills for the discharge of trivial debts; \$16.39 for ferriage, \$11.78 for meals for troops, \$22 for two sick men in hospitals, \$16 for a lost rifle, and so on through 1777 and part of 1778. The regular operations of taxation and providing for the support of the credit of the Nation did not exist. The compact, into which the colonies entered to carry on the war, gave no power to Congress to levy taxes upon the inhabitants of the several States, or to borrow money by loans. Each Commonwealth was independent, and means to pay troops or to obtain arms and ammunition could only be obtained by the consent of the different legislatures. The people were almost universally opposed to being taxed; for the struggle was against taxation, and they had paid comparatively little throughout their history to maintain the colonial officers and legislative assemblies. The annual cost of the civil establishment of all the colonies together, previous to 1775, had been but \$300,000. They were not accustomed to heavy pecuniary public burdens. No one in New Eng-

land paid half a crown, or 66 cents, per annum before the Revolutionary War to support the State. A fortnight before the battle of Bunker Hill the report that a man in Salem, Mass., had 500 pounds to lend to the Government was taken up with eagerness by the authorities, so limited were their resources. The Pennsylvania Assembly, by an Act in 1775, voted to lay a tax on real and personal property, but they did not order the collectors to collect it, and it was to be paid when the bills of the Colony to discharge its former debts were paid. In 1779 taxation had lain dormant in South Carolina four years, ever since the beginning of the war, and previous to that period it had been slight. The planters of the South had been somewhat isolated and in the habit of defending themselves and punishing offenders with little ceremony, and in the North the structure of courts and jurisprudence was simple and inexpensive.

Great Britain had indeed obtained large sums of money from the colonies, but it was done indirectly, by duties on imports, tonnage and port dues. From these sources at the opening of the contest the crown received \$0,000 pounds annually. With the Declaration of Independence this at once ceased. It was not till after the present Constitution was adopted that the people of the United States paid for federal purposes as much as they had paid to the King. When he attempted to tax them in new modes for the maintenance of a power far away across the ocean, it is not surprising that they refused their consent. But the same discrimination to submit to unwonted imposts rendered it extremely difficult for Congress to realize funds necessary to defend the position they had assumed. The need of more troops and more money to arm, equip and pay them was constantly felt. The letters of Washington to Congress are full of urgent requests for more men and additional supplies of food, clothing and ammunition, and that body perceived the imperative necessity of acceding to his suggestions. They often applied to the States for assistance, representing the pitiable condition of the soldiers, and the imminent peril of the cause of liberty unless help were rendered, but frequently received little more than empty resolutions in reply, and some of the delegates were almost in despair of winning the fight. Samuel Dexter, of Massachusetts, retired from public life because he could not consistently vote to raise an army without seeing measures inaugurated for its support. However patriotic Congress might be it was destitute of power to coerce the States to undergo expenses which they did not approve, and its enactments had little more efficiency than so many recommendations. June 2, 1775, more than a year before Independence was declared, it resolved that no one should sell supplies to the British. The next day they voted to borrow £300 pounds, and to provide for the liquidation of the loan, but how payment was to be realized was not clear.

During the first part of the contest the principal reliance of the National Government was upon paper promises to pay, which were circulated as money, and as from necessity they were multiplied their value diminished, until at the expiration of a few years they would

purchase nothing and were worthless. There was no visible resource, recognized by all, through which they could be redeemed. February 17, 1776, Congress appointed a committee of five, one of whom was Mr. Morris, to superintend the department of finance, and in April following an effort was made to organize the treasury office under this committee. The same year it established a loan office, with a view of borrowing five millions of Continental dollars at four per cent. interest, to be repaid in three years.

Mr. Morris was first elected a delegate to Congress from Pennsylvania in 1775, and subsequently to the same body in 1776 and 1777. He was the first from his State who signed the Declaration of Independence, though he had been doubtful whether the time chosen for its promulgation was appropriate. He saw the poverty of the Confederation and with his clear mercantile foresight feared the consequences of contracting debts which without foreign aid they had no prospect of paying. He served on various committees to provide military stores and was on the committee to secure a navy for the defence of the coast. His voice was often heard advocating measures by which the States might be induced to furnish adequate pecuniary means for the prosecution of the war. In 1776 he was on a committee of secret correspondence with reference to securing assistance from European nations, and was intimately associated in this task with Benjamin Franklin and John Jay. In the intervals of the sessions of Congress in 1776 and 1777 he was one of a committee of three, to whom was intrusted all its business. He wrote many long and important letters to Washington and to the representative of the U. S. in France urging the importance of prevailing upon that country to render help. Washington applied to him for 150 pounds in hard money to be used in the secret service of the government, and he undertook to supply it, though gold and silver were extremely scarce. Lieutenant Colonel Charles Lee, a retired officer in the British army, dissatisfied that he had not been promoted as he thought he deserved, determined to join the American cause. If he did so, his property would be confiscated and he would be reduced to poverty. As he was destitute of funds, Mr. Morris at his solicitation loaned him 5000 pounds, that he might be able to transfer his allegiance to the side of the Union. Some months afterwards Lee, who by this time had been made a Major General in our army, wrote to a friend across the ocean, that "the affairs of Pennsylvania were in the hands of Robert Morris." Mr. Morris was a member of the Council of Safety, and before and after the war one of the most influential members of the Pennsylvania Assembly, and his private business suffered much by his attention to public duties, and by his willingness to use his property and his almost unlimited credit for the benefit of his country.

In 1777 Congress realized more than ever the impracticability of meeting the large and increasing expenses of the war by the issuing of paper money, and it began to urge the States to tax their citizens. In September a committee was appointed, on which Mr. Morris was, to press this matter upon the immediate attention of the Legislatures. The same year a resolution was passed advising Washington to take supplies for the soldiers

from the disaffected inhabitants, a plan which tended wherever it was carried out, to intensify their ill feeling toward the partisans of freedom. In 1778 considerable time was spent in devising schemes against the property of the Tories and confiscation of their effects seemed to be almost the last resort. To employ the uncertain power of the Confederation to take what was needed from the Unionists was deemed unwise and unsafe. In a letter to Franklin then in Paris, it is said, in explanation of the difficulty of gathering funds, "The contest being upon taxation, the laying of imposts except in the direct necessity would be madness."

Yet Congress was impressed with the vast importance of keeping up the conflict, and it asked the States to provide annually six millions of dollars for eighteen years commencing with 1779, and as this proposition was not accepted, in the

early part of that year it made a call upon them for fifteen millions of dollars and in May for forty-five millions more. In 1780 it sent out a trumpet blast to all the commonwealths for aid, and made apportionment of six million silver dollars, which might be paid partly in specific articles, as corn, oats and flour.

The value of the bills of credit and notes it had put forth, had fallen so low it was now useless to issue more. That was the most gloomy period in the Revolution. Many patriotic hearts were filled with overwhelming anxiety, lest after all the labors, sufferings, hardships, and battles of years the attempt to establish a free government on this continent should prove vain. The English saw the depressed condition of the colonies with exultation. King George III said the distress in America would force his rebellious subjects to make peace. Washington himself was more alarmed than he had been at any previous time. He wrote in May, 1780, to Joseph Jones, a delegate from Virginia: "Certain I am unless Congress are vested with powers by the several States competent to the great purposes of war, or assume them as a matter of right, and they and the States respectively act with more energy than they have hitherto done, our cause is lost. One State will comply with a requisition of Congress; another neglects to do it; a third executes it by halves, and all differ either in the manner, the matter, or so much in point of time, that we are always working up hill. While such a system as the present one, or rather want of one, prevails, we shall ever be unable to apply our strength or resources to any advantage." There was lamentable carelessness in many parts of the land about fulfilling the wishes of Congress, yet in some regions earnest and self denying efforts were made to conform to them. In 1781 President Reed, of Pennsylvania, said that four thousand persons in the State were suffering for want of provisions, and yet he urged the commissioners to bring in the taxes. He would do all in his power to meet the expectations of those who were intrusted with the defence of the country. About that time Congress appointed a committee, in which President Reed was, to discover the reason why the taxes were not collected. After investigation they reported that it was due to the neglect of the proper officers. Even then all our countrymen were not disinterested patriots. The committee said, "not one-third of the taverns take out a license."

Continental property, no longer needed toward the close of the war, was sold by appraisement. Officers would sell to a friend a span of horses belonging to the government for one-third of its value.

In Bethlehem a commissary on full pay was employed with an assistant to supply six Hessians, who worked about the town. Reed said, "a mulatto under the deputy commissary has acquired a handsome fortune, some declare ten thousand pounds in specie. There have been at times twelve deputy quarter-masters in this one county alone."

Yet enforcing the payment of taxes caused great hardships to individuals and in many districts. One man in Pennsylvania with a small farm owed militia fines of twenty and one half pounds, \$57.00. To satisfy the debt the collector took away two horses and seven cattle. The collector of Caroline Co., Va., reported that many of the people there would pay the tax if they had any money, but they could not get it. They were willing to give up their property, and some had exposed it for sale, but no one had silver or gold to buy it with. In 1780 Mr. Morris, assisted by other citizens of Philadelphia, established a bank, by means of which 3,000,000 rations of provisions and three hundred hogsheads of rum were forwarded to the army. In 1781, before Yorktown was captured, it was feared that Philadelphia might be attacked by the British, and Thomas Paine proposed that one-third or one-quarter of the value of the rents of the houses should be levied on the inhabitants of the city for its defence, which it was estimated would amount to 300,000 pounds or 800,000 dollars.

Various schemes came before Congress, by which it was hoped money might be obtained and order and efficiency introduced into the management of the national finances. But they all proved inadequate and that body was convinced that the fiscal affairs of the country must be placed in the hands of one man, who should be clothed with authority to devise and execute plans to replenish the exhausted treasury and revive the public credit. For this duty in February, 1781, Alexander Hamilton nominated Robert Morris, and he was unanimously elected with the title "Superintendent of Finance," which was abbreviated in common parlance to "Financier." His salary was to be 6,000 dollars a year, a small compensation for the services he rendered. Soon all the monetary operations of the government were under his control. A floating debt of two and a half millions of dollars weighed down the treasury, and more permanent obligations existed in the form of currency and certificates of loan to the amount of \$140,000,000, or counting twenty of paper for one of silver, seven millions in specie. There was no power in the Confederacy to oblige the States to assist in meeting its responsibilities and no regular, reliable source of income. No systematic assessment had been adopted for all parts of the land, and the States were jealous of each other, one afraid that it would pay more according to its population and resources than another.

Mr. Morris was from the first embarrassed with the general derangement of pecuniary affairs, enormity of expenditures, confusion, languor, complexity and consequent inefficiency of the operations of the government. He wrote to Con-

gress and to the States urgently requesting that their mutual accounts be settled, that he might know the liabilities of the Confederation. He stated that in his judgment the cost of the war was twenty million dollars a year, and that the assessments should be paid in specie; that if they were contributed in old Continental paper, their cause was hopeless. He must abandon the system previously in use and enter upon a new course. He found the treasury empty, and discovered that public officials, clerks and employes had not been paid for many months, and that some of them were liable to be put in jail for debts they had necessarily contracted and had no means to satisfy. If he paid the salaries of those, who were about to be imprisoned and not others, there would be misunderstanding and hard feeling; so he paid them all from his own purse.

France acknowledged the independence of the United States and made an offensive and defensive treaty with us in 1778, and as hostilities arose with Great Britain in consequence, she sent a fleet and troops to our coasts to aid us, which proved most timely and advantageous. But money was needed to recruit and support our own army. Not only military and naval assistance was required, but pecuniary funds also. Mr. Morris made efforts to secure a loan from France with indifferent success. He tried to obtain one of five millions of dollars from Spain, but that country was not in circumstances to furnish it. At length he borrowed \$1,400,000 from Holland, which was the first loan our government ever made from a foreign nation. He exerted a powerful influence in his own, as well as other States, in the way of inducing the people to comply with the demands of Congress. He pronounced specific supplies, grain, etc., to be burdensome and comparatively useless, and pressed the need of solid money. Albert Gallatin in 1796 wrote, that Pennsylvania had levied some enormous taxes during the war, as he thought far beyond her ability, the arrearages of which were not yet fully paid, and this was largely through the persuasive eloquence of Mr. Morris.

Lord Cornwallis surrendered to the combined French and American forces October 19, 1781. The day before that important event Mr. Morris stated, that he could not command more than one-twentieth of the sum necessary for the current expenses of the year. He declared, that he had not, since his appointment as Superintendent of Finance, received a shilling from any State but Pennsylvania, and that only in paper money, and 7,500 pounds in specie, which must be expended for contracts in the State. For general purposes almost nothing had come within his reach during a period of eight months. Yet the war must be prosecuted, the soldiers must have food, clothing, tents, arms and ammunition, and wages that their families might be kept from starvation while they were in service, and all the other innumerable expenses of the National administration must be met. No other course seemed open to him than to purchase what was needed with his own private means and to enter into contracts on his personal responsibility. The campaign of 1781 was freighted with the gravest issues. Multitudes of the people were becoming weary of war. Preparations must be

vigorously made for the destruction or capture of the British forces under Cornwallis, and Mr. Morris was obliged to take upon himself the task. In the first part of the season he furnished the army several thousand barrels of flour and during the summer issued his own notes to the amount of \$1,400,000 to provide articles demanded. Marshall, in his "Life of Washington," says that it was due to Morris that the movement on Yorktown was not frustrated by lack of men, transportation and subsistence. Another writer says that "next to Washington the country owes the triumph of Yorktown to Robert Morris." Just before that event he obtained from the Chevalier Luzerne, a French nobleman, 20,000 pounds in specie.

People had so much confidence in him that his own notes circulated more freely than those of the Confederation. Chastellux says that on the strength of his office as minister of finance his notes, bearing his own name alone, passed throughout the continent as cash, and the Legislature of Virginia enacted a law making them legal tender.

Mr. Morris used every expedient possible to raise funds. He had faith in the ability of the country to pay ultimately all its indebtedness, but this was a season of poverty and sore distress. He applied to the Society of Friends for donations for the refugees from the South who had fled from the incursions of the British. They answered that they had contributed to the citizens of Charleston, South Carolina, and to the inhabitants of the frontier settlements during the French and Indian Wars and that it was not convenient for them to accede to his request now. In 1782 the quotas to be paid by the States came in so slowly that the general government had not money sufficient to pay debts of the utmost exigency and to support its ambassadors in foreign lands, even with the help afforded by France.

Many of the people in districts in possession of the enemy suffered severely by the contest. Farmers, on the opening of peace, found their farms out of order, buildings dilapidated, fences gone, stock carried off, crops destroyed and utensils missing, and many of the churches were torn down or deserted. At the close of 1779 Mr. Tracy, a merchant of Newburyport, Mass., had lost forty-one ships. Facts like these account in part for the laxity of many of the States in contributing for the Confederation. Their reluctant delays laid an enormous load upon the shoulders of Mr. Morris. But though the soldiers in numerous instances met with great losses and all were poorly supplied and meagerly paid, yet they behaved nobly. A French writer, who was in the Yorktown campaign wrote as follows: "I cannot too frequently repeat how much I was surprised at the American army. It is beyond understanding how troops, who were almost naked, badly paid, composed of old men, negroes and children could move so well, both on the march and under fire."

Mr. Morris devised various forms of imposts upon the fitting out of vessels, and as no one had been appointed to regulate the affairs of the navy, Congress in 1781 resolved, that until such an appointment should be made, the duties of that department should be performed by the superintendent of finance, and for more

than three years he was in charge of the treasury and the navy, without increase of salary. Though he objected to this additional burden, yet he bore it, because it saved expense to the United States. Joseph Reed, secretary of Gen. Washington, wrote from London that Morris had "all the effectual powers of the Government of the Union in his hands." In 1781 he proposed to Congress the establishment of a mint, and through his efforts the bank of North America was incorporated and its operations sanctioned by the Legislatures of Pennsylvania and several other States, and it proved a powerful agent in relieving the Confederation of its embarrassments. In 1783, just before the ratification of the treaty of peace, he wrote to the President of Congress, that "as nothing but the public danger could have induced him to accept the office of superintendent of finance, so little apprehension was now entertained of the common enemy, that his original motives had ceased to operate; that circumstances had postponed the establishment of the public credit, and that it did not consist with his ideas of integrity to increase the national debt while the prospect of paying it was diminishing." He therefore resigned, but at the request of Congress remained in charge till November, 1784. At the end of the war the army would not disband unless the claims of the soldiers were satisfied, and Mr. Morris became responsible for the amount necessary. This with other sums advanced made the nation at his retirement a debtor to him of a half million of dollars, for which he trusted his successor would indemnify him, and which was all finally repaid. He was elected by Pennsylvania a member of the convention that framed the present constitution of the U. S., and a member of the first U. S. Senate. When President Washington was about to organize his cabinet, he offered to Mr. Morris the position of Secretary of the Treasury, but he declined it. Upon being asked by the President whom he would recommend, he suggested Alexander Hamilton, and he received the appointment.

When the sound of arms was no longer heard in the land, Mr. Morris formed a partnership with Gouveneur Morris, though they were not relatives, and engaged in commerce with China and India. They sent out in 1784 the first American ship that ever appeared in the port of Canton. His residence in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary war was on Front street below Dock street, facing the Delaware river, but subsequently it was on Market street, between Fifth and Sixth, and was the finest in the city. It was in this mansion that Gen. Washington, by the invitation of Mr. Morris, ordinarily took up his abode when in Philadelphia. The two eminent men were on terms of the warmest friendship, and there was no one whom the President held in higher esteem than the able and patriotic financier. At a reception on one occasion, when a large number of distinguished guests were presented to Washington, he bowed to them all, but shook hands with Mr. Morris alone. After the alliance was formed with France, he was visited by diplomats, noblemen and other foreign dignitaries, as the representative man of the city. In 1782 the Prince De Broglie took tea with him, and spoke of him in letters as the Controller General of the U. S. The Marquis De Chastellux says,

"He is a large man, simple in his habits, lives in fine style. His house is like the residences of wealthy Englishmen." August 31, 1781, is represented in the journals of the time as a gala day in Philadelphia, when Washington came to the town with a large number of French officers. They first rode to the city tavern, thence to the house of Mr. Morris, where they were appropriately entertained. This dwelling originally belonged to Richard Penn, grandson of Wm. Penn, but had received extensive improvements from its proprietor.

In 1795 Mr. Morris was persuaded by Monsieur L. Enfant, a French architect, to enter upon a scheme, which subjected him to great pecuniary loss, the building of a splendid mansion on a new site. He said he could sell his High street, or Market street property for \$80,000, and was told he could put up a magnificent structure for \$60,000. So the plan was decided upon. He bought nearby the whole square bounded by Chestnut, Walnut, 7th and 8th streets, for 10,000 pounds, or \$26,600, and the architect proceeded with the work. The ground was twelve or fifteen feet higher than it is at present, and was a commanding location. Cellars of two and in some places three stories underground were dug with extensive vaults and massive arches; the superstructure was reared two stories in height with lofty ceilings; the whole exterior was faced with marble with much carved ornamentation in relief, and furniture was imported from Europe at lavish expense. The result was the most beautiful private dwelling in America. But Mr. Morris was often seen gazing at it with mortification and regret, and was heard to utter bitter exclamations at his own folly and the extravagance of the architect. Soon after this he was involved in financial troubles, and the grand palace was seized by his creditors. But it was so far beyond the need of any one that no purchaser could be found even at a minimum price, and it was taken down at great cost; most of the cellars were filled up and the materials were sold in lots to the highest bidder.

Towards the last part of his life Mr. Morris displayed less wisdom in the management of his own affairs than he had done previously in those of the government. He purchased 2500 acres of land in Bucks county along the Delaware opposite Trenton. The earliest date of his ownership is 1787, when Manassah Cutler mentions that he saw several long buildings, which Mr. Morris had erected. The place took the name of Morrisville. In the tract he had fourteen farms, a grist mill, rolling mill, wire mill, snuff mill, plaster mill, an iron forge, a saw mill, a brewery, a fine house for his own residence with suitable outbuildings, and a stone quarry. In 1794 he directed his son William, who was then in London to visit a Mr. Wood, who he understood could build a steam engine, and get him to come to America; and stated, that if the machinist had not money sufficient, he would furnish means to construct the engine and make the voyage; he cautioned him, however, not to attract the attention of the British Government, which would do everything in its power to prevent the growth of manufactures in the new Republic. The Duke De Liancourt, a French nobleman, gives a description of Morrisville, and remarks, that Robert Morris owned the whole of it; and that he had started iron

works and other manufactures. All these enterprises failed to be remunerative. They were in advance of the times. The estimated value of the property there was \$250,000; but on it were two mortgages, the first to the Insurance Company of North America for \$73,000, and the second for \$25,000 to George Clymer, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Morrisville is within the district originally chosen as the site of the capital of the United States. In 1784, while Congress was in session at Trenton, it appointed a commission of three members, one of whom was Mr. Morris, to procure land near the Falls of the Delaware for public buildings. It was to be not less than two, not more than three, miles square, and they were authorized to erect suitable edifices in an elegant manner, and to draw on the treasury for \$100,000. It was understood that the spot for the Hall of Congress was to be the high ground west of Morrisville. Soon after Congress adjourned to New York and influence adverse to the plan arose. The advice of Washington being solicited, it was discovered that he was in favor of a more southern location, and it was finally decided, as a compromise between the North and South, that the seat of the National Government should be temporarily, for ten years, in Philadelphia, and permanently on the banks of the Potomac.

Besides the village bearing his name, Mr. Morris owned a tract which was called in an inventory of his possessions, the Neshaminy estate, and a farm of 110 acres in Plumstead township. With John Nicholson and James Greenleaf he organized the North American Land Company and bought millions of acres in different sections of the country at low prices, from a few cents to a dollar an acre. They had 4,300,000 acres in the region of the Genessee in New York State and vast tracts in Northampton, Luzerne, Washington and other counties of Pennsylvania. Greenleaf was an unprincipled sharper and through him Mr. Morris lost all he possessed. In 1798 Mr. Morris was arrested for debt by suit of Charles Eddy, whom he pronounced "the most hardened villain God ever made." Having no means to satisfy his creditors, he was confined in prison three years and six months.

It has been said with some truth that he used his private fortune for his country, but that in his time of trouble his country forgot him. Still it is proper to remark that his ultimate descent to poverty did not come from his connection with the Government, but from his own imprudent speculations. He wrote to a friend in England that "although he suffered much loss of property by the war, on the whole he had gone through the crisis about even. He had lost as many as one hundred and fifty vessels and mostly without insurance, as he could not get it effected; but as many escaped and made excellent profits, his losses were made good to him, or nearly so." While he was in prison he was visited by Washington more than once, who still esteemed him a dear, unfortunate friend. He was released in 1801, and lived about five years after, dying in 1806, at the age of 72 years. His wife survived him twenty-one years. They had seven children, sons and daughters, several of whom he sent to Europe to be educated in France and Germany.

From, *Intelligencer*

Doylestown Pa;

Date, *Aug 20th 1894*

TOHICKON UNION CHURCH.

Read by Asa Frankenfield, of Telford,
Before the Buckwampun Literary Association,
June 9, 1894.

It is hard at this late date to ascertain the time of the first church here, but it appears that as early as 1743 public services were held at this place. The first deed on record bears the date of September 6, 1753, which was made between Jacob Rees, Martin Shaffer, Ludwig Wildonger, Jacob Rohr, John Worman and Michael Lot, trustees of the Calvinist and Lutheran congregations of the one part, and Blasius Boyer, of Chester county, of the other part; for a tract of land situated in Bedminster township, and containing one acre and a quarter and sixteen perches, which was bought for five shillings. A second tract containing two acres was bought from Enos Lewis, for £20 gold or silver money. The deeds bears the date of April 11, 1803, and was made between Enos Lewis, of the one part, and John Haney, Jacob Solliday, Jacob Beidelman and Philip Schreyer, trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations, of the other part. A third tract was bought from Jacob Delp, containing one acre and 94 perches, for \$303.46. The deed bears the date of May 7, 1864, and was made between Jacob Delp, of the one part, and John R. Shellenberger, Thomas Bartholomew, Thomas Frederick and William Keller, of the other part, trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. A fourth tract, containing 8 perches, was bought from Henry K. and John K. Shellenberger, for \$5. The deed bears the date of November 22, 1879, and was made between Henry K. and John K. Shellenberger, of the one part, and the trustees of the Tohickon church, of the other part. The time of the first burial cannot be known, but amongst the oldest tombstone that can be found date back as far as 1767. The cemetery was started in 1873. The first burial was Harry Johnson in October, 1873.

The first church, as known, was already built before the deed was given. It is supposed to have been built about 1743. It was a log structure without a floor or a stove. It served the congregation until 1766, when the second church was built. This was a stone structure, also without floors or stoves, except the altar was laid with brick. It had galleries on three sides of the church, but at a later date stoves and floors were also

put in. The third building was erected in 1838, by Charles Nonamaker, contractor. It is a stone structure, fifty by sixty feet, also with galleries on three sides. It was remodeled in 1884.

The first organ was purchased by Peter Henry, at a cost of \$1500, and presented to the church by him. The second organ was purchased in 1839, from Mr. Krauss, of Lehigh county.

The earliest reliable record is that in the "Halleschen Nachrichten" where repeated mention of Tohickon church appears as early as 1749. In that year Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg had charge of the Lutheran congregation, which he describes as small and poor. As he had a large field and could not attend to his congregation regularly he secured the services of a student or candidate named Rudolph H. Schrenk, whose preaching was highly appreciated. The sacraments were administered by Muhlenberg himself. The next regular pastors were Lucas Raus, from 1751 to 1753; John Andre from 1753 to 1756; Johann Martin Schaffer from 1756 to 1759; Johann Joseph Roth from 1761 to 1764; Johann Wolf Lizel from 1765 to 1769; Conrad Roeller from 1772 until his death in 1796. His body was buried beneath the altar of the Indianfield church. George Roeller from 1797 to 1839; Engelbert Peixoto from 1840 to 1864; F. Walz from 1865 to 1893. The present pastor is Rev. C. Fetter.

It is impossible at this late date to ascertain when and by whom the Reformed congregation of Tohickon was organized. In 1738 to 43 a large number of French Huguenots with some Swiss and Germans settled in the vicinity of the church, bringing in many instances little else than the bible, hymnbook and Heidelberg Catechism and meeting in each other houses for worship as circumstances permitted. There are evidences of an organization in 1743 but no pastor was settled here until August 27th, 1749, when Rev. Jacob Riesz was installed. He had charge of the congregation until 1756, his successors number 12 as follows: Revs. John Egidio Hecker from 1756 to 1765; Christopher Gebrecht from 1766 to 1770; Casper Wack from 1772 to 1781; John Theobald Taber from 1782 to 1787; John William Ingold from 1788 to 1789; Necoleus Pomp 1790 to 1799; Jacob Seim from 1799 to 1818; John Andrew Strassburger from 1818 to 1854; Joshua Derr from 1854 to 1857; Peter S. Fisher from 1857 to 1871; Jacob Kehm, May, 1871, the present pastor. Some were highly educated. Latinisms appear frequently, particularly in the entries of baptisms. Mr. Wack was pastor during the Revolutionary period, and was an ardent patriot. Strassburger spent the whole of his ministerial life here.

The average length of the pastoral relation has been about ten years. This congregation has rapidly increased in numbers since its beginning, and is one of the strongest, numerically, of the churches in the county. All the Reformed churches of this neighborhood have derived their membership from old St. Peter's, as it is called. The transition from German to English in public worship is being gradually effected by both denominations. Services have become more frequent. Benevolent and local objects receive considerable attention. Although one of the oldest churches in the county and the mother of quite a number of churches of more recent

origin, this church still possesses the elements calculated to render her future prosperous and useful.

There is but one of the pastors buried here, which is Rev. Jacob Riesz, the first Reformed pastor. On his tombstone you will find the following inscription: "Rev. Jacob Reisz, former pastor here; was born April 10, 1706, and died December 23, 1774."

The two congregations together number about 1000 confirmed members. The first sheds were built about 1860.

From, *Democrat*

Flemington, N.J.

Date, *Aug. 21, 1894.*

Lambertville Record.

Another Revolutionary Landmark Gone.

A week or two since, to make way for improvements, was cut down the old historic chestnut tree known as "The Washington Tree," which had stood for 150 years upon the Paxson estate, a few feet to the north of the old York Road, in New Hope borough.

This grand old tree measured 22 feet in circumference, and though many of its limbs were dead, reached out far upon either side, making grateful shade in the long Summer days from the noontide sun. Had it ears, eyes and tongue, much could it have told of Revolutionary days, for before it, on many occasions, passed the Continental army in full array, as they entered into and were driven from New Jersey. Nearly every foot of this part of Bucks county is full of interest to the student and lover of Revolutionary lore, for the whole section abounds in historic incident connected with Colonial and Revolutionary days. New Hope, at the time of the Revolution, was known as "Coryell's Ferry," and from Coryell's Ferry are dated many letters from Washington and other of his prominent Generals. During the war troops were quartered here upon various occasions and at the time of the battle of Trenton, in 1776, this whole district of country was held by the Continental forces. New Hope itself at this period was in a state of armed defence, under General William Alexander—more commonly known as Lord Sterling—who threw up a strong redoubt on top of the hill, across the pond in a southwesterly direction from "The Old Parry Mansion" and a part of that estate. Lord Sterling also had another redoubt thrown up on the "Old York Road," at the corner of Bridge and Ferry streets—opposite "The Old Washington Tree" stood. These with stockade entrenchments and batteries just above the ferry landing, on the river bank, north of the Old York Road, constituted the

defences of New Hope in 1776 from what General Washington evidently anticipated—an advance movement of a portion of the British army at that time. The old hip-roof house, recently taken down (and which was immediately opposite the long avenue leading into the Paxson estate), was known as "The Old Fort," and is said to have been used as Lord Sterling's headquarters while his soldiers were stationed at New Hope. Here Washington met his Generals Greene and Alexander (Lord Sterling), and here, it is also said, under "The Old Washington Tree," they first planned the battle of Trenton. Washington had his own headquarters a few miles below New Hope ("Coryell's Ferry"), at the Keltz Homestead, and doubtless on many an occasion halted under this ancient tree to confer with General Sterling, whose earthworks were here and up the hillside beyond. On Christmas, 1776, Dr. Charles Todd, of New Hope (then a young lad), watching at the intersection of the Old York Road and the Trenton or River Road where "The Old Parry Mansion" stands, witnessed the Continental troops march around the corner into the Trenton Road and down it with hurrying steps to a point below, on the Delaware river, now known as "Washington's Crossing," where, crossing over that night in boats, they, early on the morning of December 26th, advanced upon the city of Trenton and fought and won that famous engagement which has passed into history as the Battle of Trenton. Many of the boats used at Washington's Crossing had been collected at New Hope and kept secreted behind Malta Island and whence they were floated by night to the former place and used for transportation of the army. Lord Cornwallis was informed that boats were being collected at New Hope ("Coryell's Ferry") and sent troops to what is now Lambertville, New Jersey, the opposite side of the Delaware river, to seize them, but the soldiers were apparently afraid to cross over in the face of the frowning batteries which were planted on the river's bank at New Hope.

General Benedict Arnold, the traitor, was at Coryell's Ferry on June 16, 1777, and wrote General Washington from there, and on July 29, 1777, we find the honored and lamented Alexander Hamilton (then a Captain of Artillery), who was killed by Aaron Burr in their memorable duel, writing to the Hon. Robert Morris from the same place.

Col. James Monroe, afterwards President of the United States, was quartered in December, 1776, on the Neely farm, just below New Hope.

From, *Enterprise*
Newtown Pa.
 Date, *Sept. 1 "1894.*

REVOLUTIONARY LANDMARK GONE

A week or two since, to make way for improvements, was cut down the old historic chestnut tree known as "The Washington Tree," which had stood for 150 years upon the Paxson estate, a few feet to the north of the old York Road, in New Hope borough.

This grand old tree measured twenty-two feet in circumference, and though many of its limbs were dead, reached out far upon either side, making grateful shade in the long summer days from the noontide sun. Had it ears, eyes and tongue, much could it have told of Revolutionary days, for before it, on many occasions, passed the Continental army in full array, as they entered into and were driven from New Jersey. Nearly every foot of this part of Bucks county is full of interest to the student and lover of Revolutionary lore, for the whole section abounds in historic incidents connected with Colonial and Revolutionary days. New Hope, at the time of the Revolution, was known as "Coryell's Ferry," and from Coryell's Ferry are dated many letters from Washington and other of his prominent generals. During the war troops were quartered here upon various occasions, and at the time of the Battle of Trenton, in 1776, this whole district of country was held by the Continental forces. New Hope itself, at this period, was in a state of defence, under General William Alexander—more commonly known as Lord Sterling—who threw up a strong redoubt on the top of the hill, across the pond in a southerly direction from "The Old Parry Mansion" and a part of that estate. Lord Sterling also had another redoubt thrown up on the "Old York Road," at the corner of Bridge and Ferry streets—opposite where "The Old Washington Tree" stood. These, with stockade entrenchments and batteries just above the ferry landing, on the river bank, north of the Old York Road, constituted the defences of New Hope in 1776 from what General Washington evidently anticipated—an advance movement of a portion of the British army at that time. The old hip-roof house, which was recently taken down (and which was immediately opposite the long avenue leading into the Paxson estate), was known as "The Old Fort," and is said to have been used as General Sterling's headquarters while his soldiers were stationed at New Hope. Here Washington met his generals, Greene and Alexander (Lord Sterling), and here, it is also said, under "The Old Washington Tree," they first planned the Battle of Trenton. Washington had his own headquarters a few miles below New Hope (Coryell's Ferry), at the Keith Homestead, and doubtless on

many an occasion halted under this ancient tree to confer with General Sterling, whose earthworks were here and up the hillside beyond. On Christmas, 1776, Dr. Charles Todd, of New Hope (then a young lad), watching at the intersection of the Old York Road and the Trenton or River Road where "The Old Parry Mansion" stands, witnessed the Continental troops march around the corner into the Trenton Road and down it with hurrying steps to a point below, on the Delaware river, now known as "Washington's Crossing," where, crossing over that night in boats, they, early on the morning of December 26th, advanced upon the city of Trenton and fought and won that famous engagement which has passed into history as the Battle of Trenton. Many of the boats used at Washington's Crossing had been collected at New Hope and kept secreted behind Malta Island, and whence they were floated by night to the former place and used for the transportation of the army. Lord Cornwallis was informed that boats were being collected at New Hope (Coryell's Ferry) and sent troops to what is now Lambertville, N. J., the opposite side of the Delaware river, to seize them, but the soldiers were apparently afraid to cross over in the face of the frowning batteries which were planted on the river's bank at New Hope.

General Benedict Arnold, the traitor, was at Coryell's Ferry on June 16th, 1777, and wrote General Washington from there, and on July 29th, 1777, we find the honored and lamented Alexander Hamilton (then a captain of artillery), who was killed by Aaron Burr in their memorable duel, writing to the Hon. Robert Morris from the same place.

Col. James Monroe, afterwards President of the United States, was quartered in December, 1776, on the Neely farm, just below New Hope.—*Lambertville Record.*

From, *Intelligencer*
Doylestown Pa.
 Date, *Sept. 3 "1894.*

THE HICKS FAMILY.

A Genealogical Sketch of the Family from Their Ancestor, Robert Hicks, Who Came Over in the Fortune, 1621.

The following genealogical account, of the Hicks family, obtained from George A. Hicks, of Philadelphia, who has been sojourning at Mrs. Charles Price's boarding house, "Logandale," Ingham Spring, Buckingham township, the past three months, will doubtless prove of interest to the many Hicks' relations residing at Newtown, Churchville and other sections of the county as the same has never

been published in the county to Mr. Hicks' knowledge.

On the 11th of November, 1621, the ship "Fortune" arrived at Plymouth, Mass., from London. She followed the "May flower," bringing over the parts of families left behind by those who came in that famous vessel the year before.

In the fortune, with this second body of Puritans, came Robert Hicks, the ancestor of the family in America. He was a leather dresser from Bernondesey street, Southwark, London. His father, James Hicks, was lineally descended from Ellis Hicks, who was knighted by Edward, the Black Prince, on the battlefield of Poitiers (September 9th, 1356), for bravery in capturing a set of colors from the French. Margaret, the wife of Robert Hicks, and her children came over in the ship "Ann," which arrived at Plymouth, Mass., during the latter part of June, 1622. The family settled in Duxbury, Mass., but two of the sons, Joseph and Stephen, subsequently (about 1642), came to Long Island. In October, 1645, Governor Kieft, granted a patent to Thomas Farrington, John Hicks and others, for the township of Flushing, L. I. John Hicks seems to have taken a leading part in the affairs of the settlement and was appointed at various times to fill the most important offices.

His name, and that of his son Thomas, appear in connection with almost every public measure for many years.

Beginning with the Robert Hicks family in 1621, the lineal descendants to the tenth or present generation, are as follows:

1st. Robert Hicks married first Elizabeth Morgan, and had Elizabeth, Thomas, John and Stephen. He married second Margaret Winslow, and had Samuel, Ephraim, Lydia and Phebe.

2d. John Hicks married Horod Long, and had Thomas, Hannah and Elizabeth. He married second Rachel Starr, no issue.

3d. Thomas Hicks married first Mary Washburn, and had Thomas and Jacob.

He married, second, Mary Doughty, and had Isaac, William, Stephen, John, Charles, Benjamin, Phebe, Charity, Mary and Elizabeth.

4th—Isaac Hicks married Elizabeth Moore, and had Charles, Benjamin, Isaac, Gilbert, James, Thomas, Henry, John, Edward, Margaret and Mary.

5th—Gilbert Hicks married Mary Rodman, and had Isaac, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary, and Joseph Rodman.

6th—Joseph Rodman Hicks married Margaret Thomas, and had Charles, Joseph, Elizabeth, Margaret, Gilbert W., Mary, William, Isaiah.

7th—Charles Hicks married Elizabeth Cooper, and had William C., Isaac, Ann C., Joseph, Willet, Charles C., Cooper, Rodman and Elizabeth.

8th—Willet Hicks married Margaret Mintzer, and had George A., Edwin M., L. Elizabeth, Albert M., William U. and Harry H.

9th—Albert M. Hicks married Clara V. Young, and had George A., A. Willet, Lizzie L., Clara V., Ella D., George M. and Mabel.

From, *Republican*
Phoenixville Pa.
Date, *Sept. 8th 1894.*

MAC VEAGH'S EARLY LIFE.

AN INTERESTING LOCAL STORY FROM THE CHICAGO "RECORD."

The Early Life of Two Phoenixville Boys
—The Political Lie Which was Circulated About them—A Story
of the MacVeagh Family.

About two weeks ago, Mr. William E. Curtis, of Washington, a special correspondent of the Chicago Record, spent a day here. He met a number of our townspeople, all of whom were pleasantly impressed by him; and the following, the result of his trip, appeared in the Chicago Record of Thursday, August 23rd, being profusely illustrated by pictures of Main street, the Washington House, William Althouse's home, St Peter's Church, the father of the MacVeaghs in Masonic costume, etc.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug 22.—Some weeks ago, while seeking a series of interviews with the Democratic members of the Illinois delegation concerning their impressions of Franklin MacVeagh as a man and a candidate for the United States senate, one of the representatives told me a curious story. He said it had come to him from a prominent official of the interior department, who had formerly lived in Pennsylvania. The story was this: "Years ago there lived at Phoenixville, Pa., an Irish catholic saloon-keeper of the name of Patrick McVey, who got rich selling poor whisky to the mill hands at 3 cents a glass. He had two sons, Patrick and Michael—bright, ambitious boys—and he gave them every possible advantage for education and advancement. Having reached the proper age he sent them to Yale college, but they never returned. One of them, however, has since been identified as Wayne MacVeagh, the United States ambassador to Italy, and the other as Franklin MacVeagh, the Democratic candidate for the United State senate in Illinois—both Scotch Presbyterians."

The inference to be drawn from this story was that the MacVeagh brothers had deserted their parents, discarded their ancestry and changed their names and their religion. Thinking the matter worthy of investigation, I

determined to visit the scene and ascertain the truth.

Phoenixville is a small manufacturing town on the Schuylkill, about twenty-five miles from Philadelphia. There, nearly a hundred years ago, a young iron mill was planted which has grown so great that it now covers a mile or more of the river bottom and fills the air with soot and smoke. They call this the Phoenix mill, and the group of houses that the puddlers and the molders and the furnace men live in naturally took the name of Phoenixville, and by accretion gathered to itself not only the hands that were needed as the works enlarged, but others, whose business was to feed and clothe them, so in time it became a place of importance, and has between 8,000 and 9,000 people.

It was to Phoenixville that Lord Howe came with the British army during that awful winter of 1777-78, when the prospects of independence looked very solemn to the patriots of the revolution. The house he occupied as headquarters is still standing—an old stone structure surrounded by large trees. Two miles to the east is Valley Forge, where Washington was encamped at the same time with the continental army, reduced to rags and horsemeat.

I learned that four generations of McVeaghs have lived and three have died near Phoenixville. The lines of Chester county were laid out by Wm. Penn in 1682, and its first families came over from England the same year on the good ship *Welcome*. The McVeaghs are heard from early in the next century, and they came from the Scotch protestants in the north of Ireland. The father and grandfather and great-grandfather of Franklin MacVeagh were born at Charlestown, a little village about five miles southwest of Phoenixville, and his grandfather was married by the quaker ceremony to a Miss Potts, of the family for whom Pottstown and Pottsville were named. They had a high place in quaker aristocracy. His grandfather married a Miss Major, who was also a quaker. His father unfortunately, was given the maternal family name and christened Major McVeagh. This incident caused him and other people a good deal of annoyance, for he is said to have been a very dignified and punctilious old gentleman, and always became indignant when strangers called him by his first name, supposing it to be a military title.

Franklin MacVeagh's mother was Margaret Lincoln, also a quakeress, whose family can be traced as far back as 1637, and was the same from which Abraham Lincoln came. President Lincoln's great-grandfather was Franklin MacVeagh's great-great-grandfather, so he and Robert Lin-

coln are cousins, although the latter rates one generation younger. The branch of the family from which Mr. MacVeagh's mother came remained on the old farm in Berks county, which adjoins Chester, while the president's ancestors were migratory and went west, being transplanted from Kentucky into Indiana and then into Illinois.

Major McVeagh had kept a tavern over in West Vincent and Pikeland and came to Phoenixville about 1836 to take charge of the Phoenix hotel. He was its landlord until he had a quarrel with the Phoenix Iron company, which owned it. I could get the details of the difficulty with no accuracy, because it occurred away back in 1844 and the oracles of the town differ somewhat in their recollection. But all agree that it grew out of politics and Major McVeagh's appointment as postmaster by President Tyler two years previous. The proprietors of the mill were all whigs and high-tariff men, while Major McVeagh was a free-trader and a democrat. Some say that the mill people refused to endorse him for the post office, others that they had quarreled over general politics; but, howsoever that may be Squire McVeagh, as everybody here calls him, was postmaster at Phoenixville from 1842 until 1849, when the whigs came in. For some reason or other he abandoned the Phoenix hotel in 1844 and became proprietor of the Washington house, which had just been completed.

When Squire McVeagh kept the house between 1844 and 1850, the four rooms on the ground floor were occupied respectively as office, parlor, dining-room and kitchen. In the parlor was a bar and the post-office, so that the squire and his son Nathan, who generally managed the house, could attend to their own and Uncle Sam's business at the same time. On the second floor were four bedrooms, and on the third four more, while the fourth was a large hall, used as a lodge-room for many years by the masons. Squire McVeagh purchased the house a year or so after he moved into it, and in 1850 sold it to his son Nathan for \$8,000, which was a large advance upon its original cost.

Major McVeagh was a famous mason and the master of his lodge for many years. His portrait hangs in the place of honor behind the master's chair in the Masonic hall at Phoenixville.

Hotel-keeping in those days as now, was an honorable occupation, and there was always a bar—refreshments for man as well as beast. The Rev. Dr. Stockton says that the Washington house was a very respectable tavern, and its customers were mostly farmers who came to town to sell their produce and buy supplies, and tran-

visitors who had business at the farm. The farmers would arrive early in the morning, put up their teams in the sheds across the street, transact their business, get their dinner at the Washington house, discuss politics with Squire McVeagh and then drive homeward as the sun got low.

"Major McVeagh," continued Dr. Stockton, "was a most estimable man. For years he was, perhaps, our most prominent citizens. The Washington house was not a tippling place, but a very respectable tavern and was patronized by the best people. Squire McVeagh did not always live there, but spend a great part of the time on his farm. His son Nathan managed the hotel—a very excellent man, of high character and marked ability. People used to think that if Nathan McVeagh had enjoyed the advantages that were given to his brothers, Wayne and Frank, he would have surpassed them both. The father was a generally used citizens; a man of striking personality and strong characteristics. His individuality was as marked as that of any man I have ever known. He was the trusted friend and confidant of the entire community. Mrs. MacVeagh was a very lovely character. She was a quakeress, and had a very sweet, gentle disposition. I would judge that the sons inherited their refinement and taste from her rather than from their father, who had more vigor and individuality, but less refinement," and Dr. Stockton's daughter kindly interrupted the conversation here to say that they had just finished that very morning cleaning the communion service which was presented to the church by Mrs. McVeagh.

During the later years of his life Squire McVeagh was not so prosperous as formerly. I could not ascertain the actual nature of his financial troubles, but the people told me that he "did not do so well," and in 1854 he got an appointment in some relation with the Pennsylvania railroad, then belonging to the state, which took him to Parkesburg. Nor could I find out just what his duties were, but they called him "state agent," and he lived at Parkesburg and died there in November, 1856. Franklin, who was then a boy of 17, went with him and acted as his clerk. Wayne had graduated from college and was studying law with Judge Lewis at West Chester. Nathan kept the hotel and the rest of the family were living on the farm in the suburbs of Phoenixville.

Mrs. Milton Thompson, who has known the McVeagh boys since they were born, gave me some interesting gossip about the family.

"There were four daughters," she said, "and two of them Elizabeth and Rebecca, married brothers named Henry and James McCarty. These

young men were superintendents in the iron mill and boarded at the Washington house, where they fell in love with the daughters of the landlord and married them. They were smart fellows," she said, "and afterward went to Reading, where they put up a mill of their own and got rich making iron tubing and pipe for gas and water and sewers. Elizabeth, the elder, died early—when her first baby was born—and she lies beside her mother in the Phoenixville cemetery. Rebecca is living in Reading yet, a wealthy and well-respected woman. Ellen, another daughter, died single, while she was still a young lady, and Mary Anna, the fourth, married Wm. Phelan, who had a lumber and coal yard in Phoenixville, and afterward moved to West Philadelphia, where he could do better. Phelan was the only Roman catholic in the family. Mrs. McVeagh, the mother, lived with the Phelans for many years and was buried from their house."

Mrs. Thompson remembers Franklin MacVeagh as a bright and active but rather diffident boy, with an amiable temper and a strong sense of humor. He was a great admirer of his brother Wayne, and although the two were very much alike in appearance they were very different in disposition and Wayne was ten years older.

The family has always spelled the name McVeagh, she said, as long as she had known them, and she had never heard of anybody spelling it differently. The elder son was christened in honor of Isaac Wayne, the son of the famous Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne, who lived at Paoli, or Easttown, just over the hill, and whose house is still standing just as it was in revolutionary times and occupied by William Wayne, his grandson. Isaac Wayne, the son of "Mad Anthony," was a great friend of the McVeagh family, and there is a tradition that the squire served as a private in the regiment of which he was colonel in the war of 1812; but I have been unable to find any record of his military service in the history of Phoenixville or Chester county. Wayne McVeagh, by reason of his name inherited the papers of Gen. Anthony Wayne, for the purpose of writing a biography, but in his busy life in politics and at the bar he has never found time to do so. He was always called Wayne McVeagh by his family and the neighbors through his early boyhood, and used the signature "I. Wayne McVeagh" until about twenty-five years ago, when he shortened it by dropping the useless initial.

Others told me that the McVeagh name was variously spelled, and that there had always been an animated dispute among the members of the different branches of the stock as to

which method is the genuine and original. The genealogists here agree that the family is Scotch-Irish—that is, from Scots who lived in the north of Ireland. Some spelled the name McVeigh; others McVey, like settlers of McVeytown, an ancient village on the Pennsylvania railroad; others McVay, and several other forms are represented in Pennsylvania by families of much respectability. The father of Franklin and Wayne insisted upon spelling his name McVeage, because his father and grandfather had done so, but several years after his death Mr. Wayne MacVeagh made some investigations into his ancestry and decided that the old Scotch method of spelling out the Mac in place of the abbreviation was preferable, so Franklin and he adopted it.

The old residents say Wayne MacVeagh was what they call a "forward" boy, always pushing himself into notice. But Franklin, they tell me, was a bashful boy, "stiddler," and naturally reserved and diffident.

Mrs. Evans, who went to school with the boys, gave me some interesting gossip over her garden fence. She said that in 1856, when Wayne turned republican, Squire McVeagh was very indignant, and told her father that he would rather bury Wayne than have him vote any but the democratic ticket. To which Mr. Evans replied: "Squire McVeagh, what can you expect of a boy when you have given him so much education?"

When Franklin MacVeagh was born, his father's aunt, Elizabeth Richardson, who must have been a fine, characterful old widow, with considerable wealth, insisted that he should be christened with the name of her son, Benjamin Richardson, who had died a few months before. It was intimated that this indulgence of Aunt Elizabeth's whim might induce her to leave him some money, but Squire McVeagh had no particular admiration for the Richardsons, and secured a compromise by which the baby was called Benjamin Franklin, but there is no evidence on the records of St. Peter's church that he was ever christened or confirmed in that parish. It appears, too, that Aunt Elizabeth was not satisfied with the compromise, and by his father's obstinacy Franklin MacVeagh probably lost a fortune.

They called him "Ben" and "Benny" as a lad, and most of the old settlers used that name in talking of him to me; but they all agreed that he never liked it, and made an earnest but futile protest against its use by calling himself "Frank" and "Franklin," and by signing himself "B. F." and "B. Franklin MacVeagh" when he was a youngster. When he went off to school at New Haven and could speak for himself he dropped the Benjamin entirely, and

gave his name to the registrar of Yale college as Franklin McVeagh. It appears that way in the catalogue for 1858, the year he entered, and during his subsequent course.

It is a singular coincidence that three of the four great men who have emerged from Phoenixville dropped their first names, for the great poet-editor was known as James B. Taylor when he published the Phoenixville Pioneer, and his first verses are signed that way; but when he went to be an assistant on the editorial force of the New York *Tribune* he called himself Baynard Taylor, and is thus known to fame.

The old farmhouse in which Frank MacVeagh was born is still standing in excellent condition, although its capacity has been increased since his time by the addition of wings, and the front is the only part that remains as it used to be. William D. Althouse is the present proprietor.

I asked Mr. MacVeagh once if it was true that he had changed his religion.

"No, it is not," was his reply; and he continued: "I am quite sure that if I had been born a catholic I should not wished to change my religion, for I have always had a profound admiration and regard for that great church. The truth is that my family for three generations, and the fourth is now in the same line, have been wholly episcopalians. These are the only generations I have personally known, but I have always understood from my mother and father that our episcopalianism certainly ran back to my great-great-grandfather and possibly further, although two of my grandfather's sisters were lovely quaker preachers. It is a mark of the blood on both sides that I am especially proud of, that my family has never shown either religious or political intolerance, but, on the other hand, frequently shows association and relationship which would appear to most people impossible. My mother was born a quakeress, and became an episcopalian when she married. The same trait is on the other side, and, for myself, I can worship in a Roman catholic cathedral or in a methodist meeting house, feeling perfectly at home in both, and it never enters my mind 'to lay it up against a man' that he differs from me in politics or religion, though I have been the victim of that sort of irritation in others to a special degree."

Washington O. Mellon, a man of wealth and influence in Phoenixville and the secretary of the Board of Trade, was Franklin MacVeagh's most intimate friend in his childhood, and corresponded with him until the care of business terminated their boyish intimacy.

"I can remember Franklin MacVeagh as far back as 1849," he said, "but I think we were playmates several years earlier. We went to school at that time in the basement of the Presbyterian church, and the Rev. Samuel Nash, an episcopal clergyman, was our teacher. Then we went to Classical institute, of which Abel Marple was principal, and we have been friends ever since, although of late years I have seen very little of Mr. MacVeagh."

"Do you remember his father?"

"Yes, indeed. He was a man whose individuality was impressed upon every one who knew him. My father and he were about the same age and were intimately associated in business and public affairs. I suppose they were two of the most public-spirited citizens in Phoenixville, and whenever any movement was inaugurated here they were generally the leaders. They acted together in the foundation of the episcopal church and were its wardens for many years, and in the organization of the borough. Squire McVeagh, as they used to call him, although I believe he was never a justice of the peace, was the democratic leader in the politics of this part of the county, and besides running a farm and keeping a hotel had the care of several estates. He was the guardian of several families of orphaned children and did a general law business although he had no office and I believe was never admitted to the bar. He was the leader of whatever he went into, and took an active part in religious and educational matter as well as politics. He was President Buchanan's confidential man in this part of the country. The mother was a quiet, gentle and refined woman, with a fine sentiment character. I think Frank takes after her a good deal. The last time I saw him was at his mother's funeral eight or ten years ago. All of the family are dead except Wayne and Frank and their sister Rebecca, who lives at Reading, and the widow of their brother Nathan."

"What kind of a boy was Frank?"

"He was a gentle, quiet boy, and never boisterous or unruly. He loved books and was not so active and energetic as Wayne."

"What did you use to call him?"

"We called him both Frank and Benny, although he never liked the latter name. He used to sign himself 'B. Franklin MacVeagh,' and the boys often teased him about his first name. When he went away from here and got among strangers he dropped it."

After the death of his father Franklin MacVeagh went to West Chester, where his brother Wayne was practicing law, and from 1856 to 1858 made his home with him. He was prepared for college by Charlton Lewis, a brother of Wayne MacVeagh's wife and the son of his law partner, and

entered Yale in 1858. They told me that the Hon. Anthony Higgins, United States senator from Delaware, was his room-mate.

"Yes, I was Frank MacVeagh's room-mate at college," said Senator Higgins, in reply to my question; "that is, during his freshman year. We both entered Yale in 1858, but I had attended a scientific school at Newark, in my state, and was pretty well along in mathematics, so by cramming up on the languages I was able to enter the sophomore class, while he entered the freshman. During my second year at College I went to room with one of my own class, because it was more convenient and to my advantage for obvious reasons; but we lived at the same dining club all through our course, belonged to the same literary society and were very intimate friends until I graduated. Ex-Secretary Whitney and Oliver H. Payne, of the Standard Oil company were in the class behind him, and Edward G. Mason, of Chicago, was one year before. I visited his home during vacation and he visited mine, and I knew all his family."

"Our acquaintance was sudden and purely accidental. I arrived at New Haven one day in the fall of 1858 and went to the old New Haven house. That evening I wandered into the reading-room and found there a slender pale-faced boy, who looked as lonesome and homesick as I felt. After a few moments of shying around as boys do, we exchanged greetings and got into conversation. It soon developed that we came from adjoining counties, but from different states, he from Chester county, Pennsylvania, and I from Delaware, just across the line, and we found that we had some mutual acquaintances. That was a geographical tie, at least, and as neither of us knew a soul in New Haven we clung to each other and soon became fast friends. After we passed our examination we went out together to hunt a boarding place and finally settled down as room-mates."

"He was always known as Franklin college, and was registered in the catalogue as Franklin MacVeagh, although the boys soon got onto the fact that he was originally called Benjamin Franklin, and they used to call him Benny to tease him, as he never liked the name."

"MacVeagh was one of the most brilliant men in college at that time, especially in the classics, and took a number of prizes for composition, declamation and oratory, and was one of our best debaters. His health was delicate and interfered somewhat with his standing, although he was graduated with honors."

"When he died Frank went to West Chester, the county seat of Chester

county, to live with his brother Wayne who had studied law and gone into partnership with Judge Lewis, who was commissioner of internal revenue under President Lincoln. Wayne married the daughter of Judge Lewis, and her brother, Charlton Lewis, who is now practicing law in New York, prepared Frank for college.

"I recollect," continued Senator Higgins, "that MacVeagh was knocking around hunting for health for more than two years. He made a horseback tour through the eastern states and then out through the northwest, going as far as St. Paul and probably to the British boundary. The doctors told him he could not live on the seacoast, and that a professional life or any sedentary occupation would kill him in a few years. For that reason I believe he decided to locate in Chicago, and go into business, but I am not so familiar with his career out there."

William E. Curtis.

From, *Democrat*
Doylestown, Pa.
 Date, *Oct. 25th 1894.*

PREHISTORIC RELICS.

VALUABLE COLLECTION OWNED
 BY BENJAMIN F. PURCELL.

Some Interesting Archaeological
 Finds in Upper Bucks County.—
 Their Significance as Emblems of
 the Religious Sentiment in Primitive Man.

Recently we paid a friendly visit to our genial archaeological friend, Benjamin F. Purcell, Esq., of Kintnersville, Bucks county, Pa., to look over his reported important and unique finds in that locality.

Among his large and valuable collection we noticed several new, and, to this section, very rare relics of primitive art.

First—A stone about ten inches square and two inches in thickness, with two chipped saucer-shaped cavities on the upper side. One of the saucer-shaped cavities is about six inches in diameter and one inch in depth. The smaller one is about two inches in diameter and three-quarters of an inch in depth. The latter cavity also served for the convenience of a thumb hold when transportation became necessary. This relic was used by primitive men for corn-pound- ing, crushing and preparing medicine, as the saucer-shaped cavities plainly indicate.

Second—A hammer stone, of unique design, being six inches in length, two in diameter at large end, tapering to one inch at smaller end. It has a groove cut on two sides, two-thirds distant from smaller end.

Third—An anvil stone or emblem, which evidently embodies a myth. This latter find brings out a few suggestions in regard to the divinities employed or worshipped by primitive man. The stone or emblem is about eight by four inches, consisting of hard, dark triassic shale. On its surface is carved a well defined half circle, crescent shaped, suggesting the moon in its first quarter. Opposite on a line are faint attempts at eyes, with a well defined nose and chin underneath. The dividing line between the upper and lower portion of the body is well defined by a deep groove cut completely around the relic. The carving on the lower portion of the emblem was accidentally somewhat defaced by Mr. Purcell while cleaning the stone.

The study of this relic is interesting, as it shows how strong and how prevalent was the religious sentiment in primitive man; for the very commonest carvings in stone, weapons, ornaments, decorations, &c., were turned into symbols and emblems of divinity. In studying these rare relics which have come down to us from prehistoric times, we find they came by a gradual but very natural process to be devoted, to some religious purpose, significant of some hidden thought or custom. These symbols are not all alike, some of them having more mythological significance than others, yet all seem to have been raised to a level where they were more or less sacred. We find in different parts of the country mythologic emblems, carvings in stone, consisting of birds, animals and human beings with wings, showing that all of these objects were sacred. The same is true of animal figures, monsters of the deep, etc. The pipe is another article which was in common use in prehistoric times, but which, by gradual transformation, changed to a symbol significant of religious thought and sentiment. The symbolic use of the pipe has not yet received the attention from archaeologists it deserves.

A habit, as common in prehistoric times as at present, was seized upon, and made to signify more sacred things. The smoking of the pipe of peace was an important feature in treaties or leagues which were formed between the tribes. It was also an important ceremony in all national councils. As a result, the pipe was always carried in the hand of the chiefs and medicine men in their sacred dances and in their war carnivals. Pipes in the shape of tubes may be seen in collections in this vicinity—these also were sacred symbols. They were filled with tobacco, and smoke was blown through them by the medicine men. These pipes are very significant. The stone celt, wedge-shaped, without a groove—the banner stones made of slate with a hole perforated through the centre seem to have been also a symbol of divinity among the prehistoric races. The war club is another implement, which was no doubt one of the earliest implements of savage man, and ultimately, became a symbol as well as a tribal emblem. The significance of the different articles alluded to are very interesting to the student of prehistoric art, as well as suggestive, but are nevertheless open to discussion.

C. LAUBACH.

Riegelsville, Pa., Oct. 15, 1894.

From, *Ledger*
Phila. Pa.

Date, *Nov. 23" 1894*

HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

Ex-State Senator William Kinsey, of Bristol.
[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]
BRISTOL, Nov. 22.—Ex-Senator William Kinsey, one of the best known residents, not only of this, his native town, but of Bucks county, to-day celebrated the 90th anniversary of his birth. He is still hale and hearty notwithstanding a recent illness, and is able to read without glasses. Mr. Kinsey was born in Bristol, November 22, 1804, in the old homestead, on Cedar street, which still stands, and on the site of which he hopes to live to see erected a handsome Methodist Episcopal church. He has signified his intention of contributing \$1000 towards that object. During his long life Mr. Kinsey has served in the various offices of the borough government. He was Postmaster for three terms and Burgess of the town for seven terms, while he was a Councilman for 14 terms.

In 1862 he was elected to the State Senate for three years, and proved to be one of the ablest speakers in that body. At the breaking out of the Civil War he assisted in raising a company of volunteers, and went to the front as a member of the company. He was also a frequent contributor to various newspapers, and has written largely on matters of local history.

Mr. Kinsey is one of the oldest members of the Bristol Methodist Episcopal Church, and probably the oldest Free Mason in the State.

In politics he has always been and still is a Democrat. Yesterday, in company with the Trustees of the Bristol Church, he visited Philadelphia to arrange for the sale of a property left to the church, so that the church here can use the proceeds in the erection of its new edifice.

To-day the venerable ex-Senator received calls from many of the older residents of the town, while the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church presented him with handsomely engrossed resolutions.

From, *Democrat*
Doyletown Pa.

Date, *Dec. 6" 1894*

ANCIENT RELIC RESTORED.

THE HISTORICAL SERVICES AT
SPRINGFIELD CHURCH.

A Weathercock 130 Years Old
Replaced.—Addresses by Ex-Senator Hess, Historian Buck, the Donor, and Several Clergymen.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather on Saturday, the memorial services at Trinity Church, Springfield, were deferred until Tuesday afternoon, December 4. As was expected, so unusual an occurrence brought out a large assemblage. After music from the choir and invocation, the Rev. J. G. Dubbs read a portion of the Scriptures and the Rev. S. N. Phillips offered a prayer. Rev. O. H. Melchor, one of the pastors, offered some introductory remarks on so extraordinary an occasion, and, under the circumstances, one of great interest in connection with the early history of the church.

Hon. Jeremiah S. Hess, late Senator of Northampton county, read a paper, which he had carefully prepared, giving the history of the church from 1743. It contained considerable new information. William J. Buck, of Jenkintown, the donor, made the presentation remarks, giving a brief history of the weather cock that had been on the church there from 1763 to 1816, and of its final return after an absence of 73 years. The Rev. A. P. Horn, on behalf of the trustees and the members of the two congregations, responded.

The Rev. Jacob Moyer, of the Menonite congregation of the vicinity, spoke on the subject of the worship of our forefathers, noticing the gradual changes that have been taking place since the early period of settlement, and stating that his ancestor had located here in 1745, and that a number of the descendants of the family still resided in the vicinity.

The trustees, having made every arrangement for the immediate elevation of the ancient relic to its former position on the rear end of the church, at the conclusion of the services, announced that the audience could now behold its restoration. The ceremony was witnessed by the concourse assembled. The audience was highly attentive to what was said and done. The public school immediately opposite was adjourned, that its pupils might have an opportunity to receive a lesson in local history.

It is proposed to continue further researches with the intention in the Spring of having the whole brought together and published in a pamphlet, under the editorship of Mr. Hess. The services were conducted in English and German, the former predominating; yet it was supposed that at least three-fourths of those present were familiar and more or less educated in both languages, a mention of which may be a surprise to those residing outside the German districts.

From, *Intelligencer*
Bucks Co. Pa.

Date, *June 28" 1894*

THE AFFLERBACH FAMILY.

Read Before the Buckwampun Literary Association at Applebachsville, June 9th, by William J. Buck. *1894.*

As a surname Afflerbach or Applebach is undoubtedly of German origin. For this purpose I have made some research to get at the original signification, but not with satisfactory success. Apfelbach and Auf-lehr-bach are the only pure words of that language that can approach it. The former signifies an apple stream, or literally a brook along which those trees grow; the latter a bed or channel where a stream had formerly flowed. The section of country from whence the family came is mentioned as hilly and may additionally help to explain one or the other of the aforesaid propositions, of which my preference inclines to the latter.

Wittgenstein, where they came from, is an ancient lordship, where its reigning family from an early period have been the possessors of a castle, which is still existing, and gave it name. Its location is in Westphalia, and not in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, as has been heretofore supposed. I presume it is situated about sixty miles northeast of Cologne, on the Rhine. Although I have failed in securing information on the antiquity of the family, there is reason to believe that the Afflerbachs have resided around there from a remote period. I have as yet been unable to find traces of them elsewhere, hence we may conclude that it must be one there of local origin, and likely assumed since the year 1350. In the efforts to anglicise it here is variously spelled in records, even as Offlerbach, Appleback, Afflerbage, besides nearly a dozen other deviations. In this county it is chiefly Afflerbach, which is generally accepted as the proper surname.

HENRY APPLEBACH, OF SPRINGFIELD.

The first to arrive here of this family, according to records, was "Johan Henrich Afterbach," who embarked at Rotterdam on the ship Sally, John Osmond, master, and arrived in Philadelphia October 29, 1770, aged about 31 years, and a smith by occupation. How early he came into Springfield is not known, but very probably not long thereafter. He was enrolled a member of the Company of Associators August 21, 1775. In the following year we find him assessed as a single man, residing with John Wolfager, the owner of an 80-acre farm. It is very probable that at his place he set up his occupation. In 1780 he is no longer stated as single but is taxed for 20 acres and possessing two horses and one cow. So it may be assumed that before the latter date he married Maria Renshimer, of said vicinity. The children of this union were John, Henry, Daniel, Elizabeth, married to Abraham Roudenbush; Catharine, to Nicholas Roudenbush, and Rosina. Of these will have more to state hereafter. Two others, George and Maria, died in early life.

There is reason to believe that the aforesaid Henry Applebach from the beginning settled in the vicinity of where is now the creamery, about a mile above Bursonville, where he spent the remainder of his life. He is mentioned as having given in his oath of allegiance May 28, 1778, to the new form of government, before George Wyker, Esq. His purchase from John Thompson was made June 15, 1797, of 50 acres of land. If he did not make the first improvements thereon, he certainly must have

made the larger portion. As letters of administration were granted in 1816 for the settlement of his estate it is likely that he died within said year. A tombstone has been erected to his memory in the graveyard attached to the Springfield church, which unfortunately contains no date, but states that he was aged over 77 years, so we may conclude that he was born in 1739.

The widow and heirs sold from off said place 6 acres, June 5, 1817, to Jacob Barron, and is stated to have been bounded by lands of Jacob Renshimer, probably a brother of his wife. The balance of the tract was retained by the family until sold at public sale August 4, 1824. From the advertisement we learn that it contained 46 acres and on the road to Bethlehem, the improvements being a two-story stone house with a kitchen adjoining, frame barn with stone stabling underneath, tenant house, blacksmith shop and stable, with spring house and other outbuildings, abounding in meadow, woodland, apple orchard and a fine running stream of water. It thus passed from out the family and its members removed to the vicinity of where is now Pleasant Valley. The aforesaid property was long in the possession of Henry Stover, and is the same on which the creamery has since been erected.

John Applebach, the eldest son of the ancestor, removed many years ago to Mifflin county, Pennsylvania. He had a large family and has numerous descendants there. They have changed the name to Applebaugh. Henry was born in 1786 and according to a stone at the Springfield church, died September 9, 1855, aged upwards of 69 years, 7 months. His wife's name was Sarah and had a son Levi born November 1, 1827, but beyond this can give no particulars of his family.

Daniel Applebach was born July 12, 1788, and married June 2, 1811, Catharine, the daughter of Paul Apple and his wife Christina Kappes. He was commissioned a justice of the peace by Gov. George Wolf, May 15, 1833, and I believe served in said capacity until the close of his life. He removed to near the site of Applebachsville, Haycock township, where he died August 18, 1852, his wife having preceded him four years. According to his will he was the owner of considerable real estate in that vicinity. Among his other effects mentions therein his library. He had children Paul, Henry, William, Harriet, Catharine and Lucy Ann, who have all exhibited strong local attachments for the scenes of their childhood.

Rosina, who was born in 1790, in early life entered into storekeeping on her father's place, and after its sale removed to the vicinity of Pleasant Valley, continuing in the same for many years. She died December 13, 1868, at the advanced age of 78 years, 4 months.

Paul, the eldest son of Daniel Applebach, Esq., was born in 1816, and in early life began to exhibit business qualifications that eventually brought him into the rank of the enterprising men of this section of the country. In the military he was advanced to the rank of Major General of the militia. With his brother Henry he dealt extensively in horses and cattle. In partnership with the latter in 1847 purchased of George F. Dutch what was so long known as the "Stokes Farm," a tract containing 377 acres, whereon had been built in 1837 one of

The first country seats in the upper end of Bucks, where he continued to reside to the close of his life. In 1848 they commenced the erection of buildings and chiefly through their enterprise grew into a village, and when the post office was established their name was applied to the place. He maintained an active career until overcome with dropsy, from which he died March 26, 1872, aged upwards of 56 years, 4 months. His demise was greatly regretted and it was supposed that upwards of 800 persons attended his funeral.

Henry Applebach was born November 28, 1818, married August 29, 1845, Sarah Jane, daughter of James Ely, of Monroe county. He was also an enterprising man and in connection with his elder brother done much to advance the property of the village and its neighborhood. He was here for awhile the postmaster and kept the hotel. His children were James, Daniel, Camilla and Sarah Jane. William, the youngest of Daniel's sons, was a life long resident of the village. He married January 11, 1846, Sarah, daughter of George Walp. His death occurred in August, 1891, aged 70 years. Three children survive, Paul the present District Attorney of Bucks county, Emma and Lizzie.

DANIEL AFFLERBACH, OF HAYCOCK.

He was the son of John George, who resided at the Burg or Castle of Wittgenstein, where his relative Henry had come from in 1770 and soon thereafter settled in Springfield. In company with his brother Ludwig he arrived in Philadelphia, September 30, 1773, aged at this time 28 years, and through letters received from the aforesaid Henry, resolved to emigrate to America, and was thus induced to come into the upper end of Bucks county and settle down there a farmer for the remainder of his life.

We possess no further evidence respecting him until 1776, when he was assessed in Haycock for 110 acres of "rocky land," two horses and a cow, his tax therefore being 3 shillings or about 40 cents of our present currency. We find, foreigner as he was and only a few years here, that he was enrolled for military service, and fined in 1778 and 1780 for not regularly attending the trainings, whether he was on more active duty is not mentioned. That he was on the patriotic side we know by his having taken the oath of allegiance, July 17, 1778, before Thomas Long, Esq., of Durham.

He purchased of John Schoch, April 10, 1797, 107 acres for £425, at present owned and occupied by Jefferson Afflerbach, his descendant. By patent he secured 155 acres, January 22, 1811, for \$278, which covered all of the present site of Danielsville and the surrounding section. On this he made the first improvements and retained in the family, down to 1838, when his son-in-law, John Welder, sold a part of the old homestead portion to George Snyder, now owned by his son Isaac.

In this connection I may state as aware that Danielsville, in its application here, for over half a century, has been looked upon as a joke. Now I say let the name be retained and perpetuated in honor of Daniel Afflerbach, the first original purchaser and improver of said section, where he so long lived, and died leaving a creditable record and a numerous body of respectable descendants. He sur-

vived to December 11, 1825, aged 81, and Anna Dorothy Pupp, his wife, followed him two days later at 72 years. They repose beside each other in the graveyard attached to St. Luke's church, Nockamixon.

John George Afflerbach, the eldest and the only son, was born March 13, 1775, and married Dorothy, daughter of Balthaser Steinbach, April 3, 1798. They had thirteen children, of whom eight were boys, thus causing this branch of the family in surname to be now the most numerous in Bucks county. He was a member of a company commanded by Lieutenant Andrew Apple, and did service in the summer and fall of 1814, at Marcus Hook, for the defence of Philadelphia. He was administrator of his father's estate and at a public sale in April, 1827, the farm of 147 acres was sold to Anthony Wirebach, who it is presumed purchased it for the aforesaid. He died December 22, 1837, aged 65 years.

Through research a curious matter has just come to light. In this family there is a tradition that he had early in this century received a Bible as a gift from his grandfather, after whom he had been called, and which is still in the possession of one of his descendants. On being informed of this in my investigations in Philadelphia for material on the Afflerbach genealogy, I ascertained that there was a John George Afflerbach who arrived in the ship *Fortune*, from Hamburg, September 8, 1803. I have in consequence arrived at the conclusion that he was the person, and that he had been there on a visit to his relatives and that this denoted his return and how he had received said present.

We shall now resume mention of the daughters of Daniel Afflerbach. Sarah married Anthony Wirebach, Elizabeth born in 1777 married Abraham Mill, Catharine Isaac Deihl, Mary Isaac Mill, Maria Dorthy born 1783, Charlotte 1785, and Magdalena born Jan. 21, 1790, married John Welder. The latter couple were well known to me and frequent visitors to my father's house. She died Feb. 7, 1861, and her husband June 24, 1867, aged nearly 76 years. They had children, William, David, Peter, Mary, John, James and Daniel. In 1827 he became the owner of 66 acres of his father-in-law's estate, on which he resided until sold in 1838, when about 1843 he removed from Springfield to the Bissey farm in Tinicum, where he died. A majority of his descendants now reside in Philadelphia.

John George Afflerbach had the following children: Elizabeth born in 1801, married Frederick Smith; Samuel born Feb. 14, 1802, married Juliana Funk and died in 1881; John born Nov. 27, 1803, married Sophia Deihl, daughter of Isaac, Feb. 2, 1840, and died Nov. 16, 1878; Hannah born 1805, married Peter Swartz; Tobias Aug. 6, 1807, married Catharine Deihl, died Feb. 13, 1883; Abraham May 11, 1809, married Magdalena Bibighouse, died Jan. 28, 1874; Charles, April 12, 1811, died Oct. 16, 1837; Daniel April 13, 1813, married Sarah Frankenfield, died Aug. 22, 1854; Sarah, May 21, 1815, married Deihl, died Jan. 4, 1892; Josiah, Sept. 15, 1817, died near Frankford; Dorothy born June 4, 1819; Isaac, Aug. 15, 1821, married Caroline Kile and resides in Philadelphia; Mary married Joseph Keller. John Henry Afflerbach, son of Abraham, was a captain during the late

war in the 17th Pennsylvania regiment, in which his brother George Franklin served as corporal, died at Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6, 1862, aged nearly 30 years. Although we have secured considerable later information respecting the descendants of this branch, our time will not now permit us to enlarge further in this direction.

LUDWIG AFFLERBACH, OF DURHAM,

Was born at Wittgenstein, April 11, 1753, and in company with his elder brother arrived in Philadelphia, September 30, 1773, as is mentioned on his tombstone at Nockamixon church, being at this time only 20 years of age. He first settled in Springfield and it is supposed in the neighborhood of Henry Applebach who had preceded him about three years. His wife's name was Anna and respecting her possess nothing additional. He gave in his allegiance September 8, 1778, and was married about this time. In 1780 he was taxed in Springfield for 32 acres of land, 2 horses and 2 cattle. He had children Daniel, Catharine, Magdalena, Christina, Sarah and Elizabeth.

Ludwig, or better known in English as Lewis, purchased June 18, 1788, of Clement Sewel, a farm of 112 acres in Durham, located about a mile south of the village of that name and on the east side of the old road leading to Philadelphia, where he removed and resided the remainder of his days. He subsequently had his property divided into two farms, on which he erected the necessary buildings and also purchased adjoining property until the whole comprised about 300 acres, and extended for some distance eastward along the road leading to the Delaware river at Monroe. He died January 28, 1832, aged nearly 79 years, his wife having preceded him some time before. His real estate was sold by his administrators in 1832. Among the purchasers were John Gruver, John K. Adams and Peter Steely. The woodland was sold in eight tracts. Owing to his advanced age he had relinquished farming for several years. He left a considerable estate the result of his industry and enterprise.

Daniel Afflerbach, the eldest and only son, was born March 24, 1781, whom his father took pains to have well educated in both the English and German languages. From early life he had an impediment in his speech which he never entirely overcame and prevented him from entering on a profession as had been contemplated. Hence he settled down a farmer on one of his father's places until near the close of his life when he became a justice of the peace. His wife's name we have not ascertained. He had a son Lewis now long deceased and probably other children. His death occurred March 11, 1856, and was buried beside his parents in Nockamixon. The interesting inscription on his father's tomb was composed by him in 1832.

Catharine, the eldest daughter of Ludwig, was married to Jacob Sumstone, who was called after his father, who died in Nockamixon in 1812. He was a noted teamster to Pittsburg in his day. They had eight children. He died June 4, 1832, aged nearly 46 years. His eldest son Lewis died in Tinicum about 1875. Jacob was born on the old homestead in 1821, of which he became proprietor and died

thereon in 1886. These brothers also followed teaming down to about 1840. On a visit to Jacob's house in September, 1879, I was shown his father's huge wagon body that had repeatedly conveyed freight from Philadelphia to Pittsburg drawn by six horses. It was 13 feet long and 3½ feet in height, painted a blue color. After his father's death, Lewis drove it to the latter destination down to 1834. The barn here had been specially built for teaming purposes, so as to drive therein in the most unfavorable weather and to pass through it without necessitating backing. Jacob had also a brother Samuel and a sister Anna married to Enos Wood, of Tinicum. All the aforesaid are now deceased but have surviving descendants.

Magdalena Afflerbach was married to Charles Thatcher, a descendant of an early Nockamixon family. At the death of Ludwig he was a tenant on one of his farms. Christina and her husband were deceased before 1832; they left an only surviving child, Lewis Smith, a minor of whom in 1834 John K. Adams was appointed guardian. Respecting Anna and Sarah Afflerbach can give no particulars, except that they had deceased before 1833. Considerable of our information respecting this family has been derived from the papers of Jacob E. Buck, who was the principal administrator of Ludwig's estate and now in our possession.

JOSEPH AFFLERBACH, OF SPRINGFIELD.

The aforesaid was the nephew of Daniel and Ludwig, and through letters relating the success that had attended their efforts here, induced him to leave the home of his ancestors at Wittgenstein, where he was born Nov. 17, 1773, and settled

near them. He had received a good school education and in addition pursued a full term of apprenticeship at the smith's business, extending into the manufacture of various kinds of utensils and cutlery. So at the age of nearly 23 years, single and unaccompanied by acquaintances, embarked at Hamburg on the brig Mary, Caleb Earl, master, and arrived in Philadelphia, July 30, 1796. From the latter place with a good outfit of clothing and mechanic tools was not long in wending his way to his relatives in Springfield township.

There is a tradition that he first set up his occupation with Isaac Diehl, married to Catharine, the sister of John George Afflerbach, and thus became acquainted with Maria, the daughter of George and Palsaria Stonebach, who was a niece of his wife, the latter being a daughter of Christiana and Dorothy Steinbach, now anglicized into Stonebach, of Haycock. The exact date of his marriage has not been ascertained, but it was before the summer of 1799. About this time he rented the house and shop of Henry Applebach, who is supposed was a cousin to his father. He here continued his occupation until about 1805, when he erected buildings on a 20-acre tract purchased of Isaac Burson, April 14, of the previous year, to this in 1811, purchased more land adjoining; making in all 64 acres, situated at Bursonville and on the main road leading to Bethlehem. On this property he made considerable improvements and retained possession until April, 1838.

He had children John, Catharine, Joseph, George, William, Henry, Elizabeth, Samuel and David. John, the eldest, was born June 20, 1800, who, with George, William, Elizabeth and

Samuel died in early life. He was an ingenious mechanic and a devoted reader of books; by 1834 had accumulated a library of upwards of 300 volumes. He was one of the founders and long a trustee of the famous old Eight Square stone school house, and for the time had his children well educated. In 1823 he was appointed postmaster at Bursonville, which position he held for some time. After disposing of his place he purchased a small farm in Nockamixon, about 2 mile east of Revere, where he died Dec. 2, 1845, aged 72 years. Since his death a record has been found that his given name was Jehn Joseph, but like his relative John Henry, of Springfield, dropped the first as rendering it more convenient. Hence it is assumed that John has been an old ancestral name in the family.

Catharine, his eldest daughter, was born Dec. 6, 1802, and married Feb. 25, 1824, to Jacob E. Buck, of Bucksville. Their wedded life extended to 55 years, without a death in this long interval in their household. She died at Jenkintown, July 2, 1883, aged 81 years, 6 months. They have surviving descendants in Montgomery county and at Louisville, Ky. Joseph learned the smith trade and on the retirement of his father succeeded him in the business. He married in 1837, Elizabeth, the daughter of John Weiss, of Williams township, and in 1849 removed near Davis, Stephenson county, Illinois, where in connection with his occupation entered into the manufacture and repair of iron machinery. He died August 20, 1888, aged 78 years. He left 5 sons and 5 daughters, all married and have numerous descendants residing chiefly in Illinois, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas, who are engaged in various pursuits.

Henry was born about 1812, who had the misfortune through an accident to lose his right hand when a boy, in consequence was sent mere to school, finishing his course at the Doylestown Academy prior to 1832. Hence he made teaching his profession down to his death in 1842. He taught both English and German. David was born in 1822 and became a skilled carpenter in frame work. The latter part of his life he resided in South Easton, where he died in January, 1870. During the late war he served in Col. Butler Price's first regiment of Pennsylvania cavalry, for which he was promoted to a sergeantcy. His surviving children are Ella, Joseph and Anna. The last two are married and have descendants.

HENRY AFFLERBACH, OF NOCKAMIXON.

He was the fifth and last number of the family that came to America. He was also a native of Wittgenstein and embarked at Hamburg on the ship William Johnson, arrived at Philadelphia December 3, 1807. By occupation a joiner or carpenter, to which he had served a full term of apprenticeship and was now in his 25th year. Owing to the favorable letters he had received from his relatives here, with the wars prevailing in Europe, encouraged him also to emigration. He first followed house carpentering in the Northern Liberties, near the city, where he married. About his wife we know no more than that her first name was Elizabeth. During the war of 1812-14, he worked in the government armory at Harper's Ferry making musket stocks.

He purchased April 20, 1816, a messuage and tract of 34 acres of land in Nocka-

mixon, of Benjamin Jacoby, adjoining Jacob Sunistone. Its location was on the road leading from Easton to Revere, about a mile north of the latter place, the same more recently owned by the Rev. C. P. Miller. We possess no evidence that he removed thereon until in the spring of 1823, when he concluded to establish a public house, for which purpose he greatly enlarged the buildings and gave it the name of "The Traveler's Rest," which he conducted in connection with carpentering and farming. The Delaware canal having been now completed to Bristol and venturing too far in his several enterprises, became embarrassed and his real estate sold at assignee's sale, November 27, 1829, for \$2100, not near as much as its first cost, hence thereby losing a considerable amount.

After this occurrence he removed to the city where he resumed his former business and died about 1840. His children were Mary, Henry, Louisa, Susan, William and Charles. Mary, the oldest, married Jacob Rorerbacher in 1835 and died about 1883. Louisa married Mathias Weaver, and Susan, Joseph Clark. William had sons Wm. H., John C., Joseph C., and Martha, married to Joseph Hunter. Charles is now the only survivor of his father's family. No descendants now reside in Bucks county, the larger portion in Philadelphia.

Having now given a brief account of the several branches of the Afflerbach family, will in closing offer a few general observations thereon. The names of John, George, Henry and Daniel prevailing among them is in itself strong evidence of their originating from one parent stock within the past two centuries. In the case of Henry Applebach, who came here in 1770, some doubt alone exists. It has been supposed that he was a brother of Daniel and Ludwig, but being sufficiently older the probability is that he was their first cousin. The family has been noted for its industry and honesty, and not one has been ascertained bearing the surname that has figured in the criminal records of this county though here now a century and a quarter. They have been remarkably affectionate towards each other and not given to litigation. My object in this effort is to lay some foundation for the preservation of the early history of the first arrival and settlement, leaving it to the later descendants thereof the task of rendering it more complete through additional and later researches.

From, *Register*
Narristown Pa.
Date, *Jan. 2^d 1895*

THE HOOVER FAMILY.

Four Generations Meet and Talk Over Their Descent.

The descendants of Frederick W. Hoover, late of Bucks County, to the number of 94, met in annual reunion at the resi-

dence of his son, Truman J. Hoover, in Philadelphia, yesterday. Great interest centered in their reunion, as it was known that a genealogical sketch of the family, prepared by Lay Judge Hiram C. Hoover, of Hooverton, this county, would be read upon this occasion.

According to the Judge's researches, the family is descended from Jacob Hoover, who, with three brothers, Christian, John and Hans Martin, landed in Philadelphia on September 22, 1732. Jacob, the ancestor of this branch of the family, settled in Plumstead township, Bucks county, where he purchased a large farm from William Penn. Six generations have sprung from this branch of the family, four of which were represented at the reunion. The next annual meeting will be held at the residence of Wm. J. Hoover, at Glenside.

From, *Spirit*
Jenkentown Pa.
Date, *Jan 5th 1895*

THE HOOVER FAMILY REUNION.

The descendants of Frederick W. Hoover, late of Bucks County, to the number of 94, met in annual reunion at the residence of his son, Truman J. Hoover, No. 440 West Norris street Philadelphia, on Tuesday. Great interest centered in their reunion, as it was known that a genealogical sketch of the family, prepared by Lay Judge Hiram Hoover, of Montgomery County, would be read upon this occasion.

According to the Judge's researches, the family is descended from Jacob Hoover, who, with three brothers, Christian, John and Hans Martin, landed in Philadelphia on September 21, 1732. Jacob the ancestor of this branch of the family, settled in Plumstead township, Bucks County, where he purchased a large farm from William Penn. Six generations have sprung from this branch of the family, four of which were represented at the reunion. The next annual reunion will be held at the residence of William J. Hoover, at Glenside.

From, *Intelligence*
Doylestown Pa
Date, *Feb 6th 1895*

A PAPER

READ BEFORE THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Of Bucks County, at Doylestown, Pa.,
January 22, 1895, by General W. W.
H. Davis.

A knowledge of the early settlers of a country—whence they came and the character of men they are—is always a matter of deep interest; and we are fortunate in having had preserved to us so much that concerns the men who first penetrated the wilderness west of the Delaware.

The first Europeans, to settle within what is now Bucks county, were a few families of French Walloons, who located at a trading post on a small island near the west shore of the Delaware, just below Trenton falls, about 1624-25. The post was broken up a few years later and the Walloons returned to New York.

Jacob Alricks, a trader on the Delaware, was one of the earliest permanent comers, and previous to 1657. He was accompanied by his wife, who fell a victim to the climate. His nephew, Peter Alricks, a native of Groningen, Holland, who probably came to America with his uncle, was the first known landowner in Bucks county, but may never lived here. He became prominent in public affairs. Beginning life as a trader, he was commissary of a fort near Henlopen in 1659; was the first bailiff and magistrate of New Castle and settlements on the river, his jurisdiction extending to the falls; was commandant of the Colonies under the English in 1673; was one of the first justices commissioned by Penn after his arrival; a member of the first Assembly, held in Philadelphia, in 1683, and was repeatedly a member of the Provincial Council. He lived at New Castle and had a large family of children. He owned an island in the Delaware below the mouth of Mill Creek, at Bristol, and it bore his name for many years, but has entirely disappeared. The island was granted to Alricks by Governor Nicholis in 1667; by Alricks to Samuel Borden, in 1682, and, by him, to Samuel Carpenter, in 1688. In 1679 Alricks' Island was occupied by a Dutchman named Barent. Herman Alricks, of Philadelphia, grandson of Peter Alricks, when a young man, settled in the Cumberland Valley, about 1740, and when Cumberland county was organized, 1749-50, he was the first member of the Assembly. He filled the various offices of Register, Recorder, Clerk of the Courts and Justice of the Peace, to his death, in 1775. His wife was a

young Scotch-Irish girl named West, and her brother Francis was the grandfather of the late Chief Justice Gibson. Herman Alricks had several children, all born in Carlisle, the youngest, James, in December 1769. The late Hamilton Alricks, of Harrisburg, was a descendant of Peter Alricks, as are probably all who bear this name in the State.

Duncan Williamson—known in the early records as "Dunk" Williamson, but the inscription on his tombstone reads Duncan, was one of the earliest settlers on the river front in Bucks county. His descendants claim that he came to America from Scotland with his wife as early as 1660-61. We first hear of him in 1669, when land was granted him on the east side of the Schuylkill from the mouth up. He probably settled in Bensalem about 1677, when 100 acres were surveyed to him on the south side of the Neshaminy in that township. In 1695 he bought 100 acres additional, adjoining the tract he already owned, of Thomas Fairman, for £11 silver money; part of 4,000 acres Fairman had purchased of William Stenly and Peter Banton in 1689. Dunk's Ferry was named after him. He died about 1700, and was buried in the Johnson burying ground, Bensalem. Of his wife nothing is known. His son William, who died in 1722, left a widow and five sons, Jacob, Abraham, John, William and Peter. Peter, the great-grandson of Duncan, was the grandfather, on the mother's side, of Robert Crozier, of Morrisville. A sister of Peter Williamson, who married Abraham Heed, died in Solebury in 1834, aged 101 years. The descendants of Duncan Williamson intermarried with the families of Vandegrift, Walton, Burton, Crozier, Brewer, Vansant, Thompson and many others of this county and State, wherein many of them live. Among them was the late Peter Williamson, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Masonic Lodge of Pennsylvania. The late Isaiah Williamson made the greatest name of all the descendants of Duncan Williamson. He embarked in mercantile pursuits in early life, and by close attention to business and the strictest integrity in all his dealings, became one of the richest merchants of Philadelphia, his fortune amounting to several millions. He left the bulk of his wealth to found a mechanical school, where poor boys are taught trades.

The first known Catholic in Bucks county, and probably in the State, was an early settler in Falls township, Lyonel Britton, who arrived in 1680. He was a Friend and a blacksmith by trade, and came from Almy, in Bucks, England. He was one of the first to arrive that year, and settled on 203 acres in the bend of the Delaware at the upper corner of the Manor. Penn patented it to him in 1684. A daughter died on the

way up the river, and was buried at Burlington. Another daughter, Mary, born June 13, 1680, was, so far as is known, the first child of English parents born in Bucks county, or probably in the State. The record of Mary Britton's birth is in the Register's office, Doylestown, in the handwriting of Phineas Remberton. The name of Lyonel Britton is found on the panel of the first grand jury drawn in Bucks county, June 10th, 1685. He probably left this county and removed to Philadelphia in 1688, which year he conveyed his real estate in Falls to Stephen Beaks for £100. He is noted in our early annals as the first convert to Catholicism in the Colony. He assisted to read public mass in Philadelphia in 1708 and was a church warden the same year. He died in 1721, and his widow in 1741.

Samuel Carpenter, shipping merchant and miller, was one of the most prominent of the early settlers in lower Bucks, and left a high reputation behind him. He was born in Surry, England; went to the island of Barbadoes, whence he came to this province in 1683. He first settled at Philadelphia, where he carried on extensive shipping business. At the close of the century he was the largest landowner in Bristol township—some 2,000 acres, including the site of the borough, and the tracts of John Otter, Samuel Clift, Edward Bennet and Griffith Jones, running down the Delaware to the mouth of the Neshaminy; and afterward purchased the tract of Thomas Holme, extending back to the Middletown line, making about 1,400 acres. He likewise owned two islands in the river. Samuel Carpenter probably built the Bristol mills on what is now Mill Creek, a quarter of a mile from the river, and up to whose doors small vessels came to load and unload freight. The saw mill was seventy feet long and thirty-two wide, and able to cut 1,500 feet of lumber in twelve hours, a large amount for that period, and the flour-mill had four run of stone, with an undershot wheel. There is some uncertainty as to the time Mr. Carpenter built the mills, but as he speaks of them in 1705, as being "newly built," it was probably not earlier than the opening of the century. They earned a clear profit of £400 a year, very considerable for that early day. The mill pond covered between two and three hundred acres. The pine timber sawed at the mill was brought from Timber Creek, N. J., and the oak cut from his own land nearby. At that time the mill race had about 15 feet head and fall, and there was water enough to run eight months in the year. Mr. Carpenter removed from Philadelphia to Bristol and took up his permanent residence there, about 1710-12, living in Summer on Burlington Island, where his dwelling stood as late as 1828. He was the richest man in the province in 1701, but lost heavily

by the French and Indian war of 1703. At one time he offered to sell his Bristol mills to his friend William Penn; and to Jonathan Dickinson of the island of Jamaica, in 1705. The wife of Samuel Carpenter was Hannah Hardman, who came from Wales in 1684. He died at Philadelphia in 1714, and his wife in 1728. His son Samuel married a daughter of Samuel Preston and granddaughter of Thomas Lloyd. Samuel Carpenter, the elder, was one of the most conspicuous men of that period, and largely interested in public affairs. At different times he was a member of the Executive Council, of the Assembly, and Treasurer of the province, and is spoken of in high terms by all his contemporaries. The Ellets, who distinguished the war of the Rebellion on the side of the Union, were descendants of Samuel Carpenter through the inter-marriage of the youngest daughter of his son Samuel with Charles Ellet.

The Rev. Thomas Dungan, who came from Rhode Island with his family and settled in Bristol township, in 1684, was one of the most conspicuous of our early settlers. Emigrants of this name from Rhode Island had preceded him, and some of them were on the west bank of the Delaware before Penn's arrival. William Dungan, probably the eldest son of the Rev. Thomas, came in advance to the Quaker Colony, in which there was neither let nor hindrance in freedom to worship God,

and took up 200 acres near Bristol. The grant was made by William Markham, 6th mo. 4th, 1682, and Penn confirmed it in 1684. About this time a small colony from Rhode Island settled near Cold Spring, one of the finest in the county, and near the river bank, three miles above Bristol. It discharges 150 gallons a minute. When the Rev. Thomas Dungan arrived he settled in the immediate vicinity, and soon gathered a colony of Welsh Baptists about him, and organized a church, which was kept together until 1702. Its history is little known. If a church building were ever erected it long since passed away, but the graveyard, with a few dilapidated tomb-stones, remains. It is about 50 feet square. It is supposed the land for the graveyard, etc., was given by Thomas Stanaland, who died in 1753, and was buried in it. Among others buried in this old graveyard, were two pastors at Pennypack, the Revs. Samuel Jones, who died in 1722, and Joseph Wood, in 1747. Thomas Dungan, the pastor, died in 1688 and was buried in the yard, but several years afterwards a handsome tomb-stone was erected to his memory at Southampton. The Rev. Elias Keach, the first pastor at Pennypack, and who afterwards became a celebrated English Divine, was baptised and ordained by Mr. Dungan, and probably studied with him. The Reverend Thomas Dungan

left five sons and three daughters. In his will he bequeathed his real estate to his three sons, Thomas, Jeremiah and John, after the death of their mother, they paying their sisters, Mary, Rebecca and Sarah, five pounds each. The sons and daughters married into the families of Wing, Drake, West, Richards, Doyle and Carrell. William, the eldest son, married in Rhode Island, probably before he emigrated to Pennsylvania. The descendants of this Baptist pioneer became numerous, and we have the authority of Morgan Edwards for saying, that by 1770 they numbered between 600 and 700. The family probably left Bristol in 1698, when four of the sons, Clement, Thomas, Jeremiah and John, conveyed 200 acres to Walter Plumphluy, and removed to Northampton township, the home of the family for a long time. The descendants are still numerous in the county, both in the male and female lines. Some members of the family reached honorable positions in life. One was Major General of Militia in the early twenties; another, Joshua, of Northampton township, an ardent temperance man and politician; and Hugh E., son of Daniel, of Northampton, was educated at West Point, graduated into the Artillery, and died of yellow fever at Fort Brown, Texas, in 1853.

William Yardley was one of the pioneers of Lower Makefield township. He came with his wife, Jane, children, Enoch, Thomas and William, and servant Andrew Heath, from Banclough, near Leek in Staffordshire, in 1682, arriving at the falls September 28. The "falls of Delaware" was an objective point to Penn's first immigrants, for a little colony of English settlers had gathered there five years before; hither many directed their footsteps upon landing, whence they spread out into the wilderness beyond. Several of these settlers pushed their way into the woods up the river soon after arriving, among them William Yardley, who took up a tract of 500 acres covering the site of the present Yardleyville. He was born in 1632, was a minister among Friends, and had been repeatedly imprisoned. He took a prominent place in the new colony immediately he arrived, and we find him a member from Bucks, of the first Assembly, and was also in the provincial council. He died in 1693. Thomas Janney wrote of William Yardley about the time of his death: "He was a man of sound mind and good understanding." He was an uncle to Phineas Pemberton. From him have descended all the Yardleys of Bucks, and many elsewhere, with almost unnumbered descendants in the female line.

The Kirkbrides were among the first to settle in Falls. The ancestor was Joseph Kirkbride, son of Mahlon and Magdalene, who came over in the

Welcome, at the age of 19; running away from his master and starting for the New World with a little wallet of clothing and a flail. He was first employed at Pennsbury, but soon removed to West Jersey. He was twice married, his first wife being Phoebe, daughter of Randall Blackshaw, to whom he was married March 14, 1688, and the second Sarah Stacy, daughter of Mahlon Stacy, proprietor of the site of Trenton, and one of the most prominent men on the Delaware. This marriage took place December 17, 1702. She died three years after, leaving one son and two daughters. Joseph Kirkbride lived to become an influential and wealthy man, and a leading minister among Friends; he was a magistrate and a member of Assembly. In 1699 he went to England, visiting his old master in Cumberland and paying him for the services he had deprived him of seventeen years before, by running away. He returned in 1701, and died in 1738 at the age of 75. From his son Mahlon have descended all that bear his name in the county. He married Mary, the daughter of John and Mary Sotcher, favorite servants of William Penn, at the age of 20, and settled in Lower Makefield, where he built a stone mansion that stood until 1855, when it was torn down by a grandson of the same name. Colonel Joseph Kirkbride, who lived opposite Bordentown, and was prominent in the county during the Revolution, was a grandson of the first Joseph. While the British army occupied Philadelphia in the Winter of 1777-78 they made an excursion up the Delaware, and burnt the fine dwelling of Colonel Kirkbride. At the death of the first Joseph, he left 13,000 acres to be divided among his children. The homestead farm in Falls remained in the family until 1873 when it was sold at public sale to Mahlon Moon for \$210 an acre—one hundred and one acres and a few perches. Until recently, a small dwelling, with cellar underneath and used as a tool and wood house, built by the first settler, was standing on the premises. A ferry was established at Kirkbride's landing as early as 1718, which came to be known as Bordentown ferry, and, we believe, still bears that name.

Phineas Pemberton, one of the most prominent immigrants to arrive in 1682, from Boston, county of Lancaster, England, was a glover by trade. He and his father-in-law, James Harrison, came together, sailing from Liverpool, July 7, and landed in Maryland, October 30. Pemberton brought with him his wife, Phoebe, children Abigail and Joseph, his father, aged 72, and his mother, 81. Harrison was accompanied by his wife, several servants and friends. Leaving their families at the house of one William Dickinson, Choptank, Maryland, Pemberton and Harrison traveled on horse-

back up the west bank of the Delaware toward their destination, stopping over night at the site of Philadelphia. Unable to procure accommodations for their horses, they were obliged to turn them out in the woods. As they could not be found in the morning, our two immigrants had to proceed in a boat up the river to the falls. They continued on to William Yardley's, at the site of Yardleyville, who had preceded them, and already begun to build a house. Pemberton, concluding to settle there, purchased a tract of 300 acres, calling it "Grove Place." He and Harrison now returned to Maryland and spent the Winter there, coming back to Bucks county in May, 1683, with their families. It is thought Pemberton lived with Harrison for a time, but how long is not known. He owned considerable land in Bucks county, which lay in several townships, including the "Bolton farm," in Bristol township. He is supposed to have lived in Bristol borough at one time. His wife died in 1696, he March 5, 1702, and both were buried on the point of land opposite Biles' Island, in Falls. They were the parents of nine children, only three leaving issue; Israel becoming a leading merchant of Philadelphia and dying in 1754. One of Phineas Pemberton's daughters married Jeremiah Langhorne. Pemberton was the first Clerk of the Bucks County Courts, holding the office to his death. There is no doubt the Pembertons lived on the fat of the land, as it was understood two centuries ago. In the letters that passed between him and members of his family when he was absent, there is frequent mention of meat and drink. In one, written by his daughter Abigail, in 1697, she says she had saved twelve barrels of cider for the family. In one of his letters he writes of "a goose wrapped up in the cloth at the head of the little bag of walnuts," which he recommends them to "keep a little after it comes, but roast it, get a few grapes and make a pudding in the belly." James Logan styles him that "pillar of Bucks county," and, when Penn heard of his death, he wrote: "I mourn for poor Phineas Pemberton, the ablest, as one of the best men in the province." He lived in good style and had a "sideboard" in his house.

Tradition, rather than reliable history, tells us that among the members of Phineas Pemberton's family was a young girl named Mary Becket, credited with being a descendant of the great Northumberland home of Percy; that she was married to Samuel Bowne, of Flushing, Long Island, October 4, 1694; that her mother was a ward in Chancery when she married Becket, and they were compelled to fly to the Continent, where he was killed in the religious wars in Germany, Mary being the only child of this marriage; that after the

death of her husband, Mrs. Becket married one, Haydock, by whom she had two daughters, both of whom became Friends, and came to America, but the time is not given. Such is the story as it runs, but its truth is called in question by descendants of the Perceys. Among other things of interest in connection with this romantic story is a love letter Samuel Bowne wrote to Mary Becket, dated Flushing, (Long Island,) 6th mo., 1691, and will be found in full in Davis' History of Bucks County. It is an unique production, in the stilled style of the seventeen century, but we have doubts whether a lady of the present generation would be satisfied with such epistle from the man she was on the eve of marrying. A copy of the letter was furnished by Miss Parsons, of Flushing.

As previously stated, James Harrison, the father-in-law of Phineas Pemberton, came with the latter in 1682, landing in Maryland, October 30, and settling in Lower Makefield the following Spring. Penn appointed Harrison his "lawful agent" to sell for him any parcel of land in Pennsylvania of not less than 250 acres. This was soon after the latter's arrival or possibly before he sailed.

The Paxsons were of the immigrants who arrived in 1682, James Paxson, the progenitor of the family, coming from Bycot house, parish of Slow, county of Oxford. He embarked with his family, but his wife, son and brother Thomas died at sea, his daughter Elizabeth only surviving to reach her father's new home west of the Delaware. He settled in Middletown locating 500 acres on the Neshaminy above the site of Hulmeville. After being there two years he married Margaret, the widow of William Plumley, of Northampton township, August 13, 1684. He was a man of influence and a member of Assembly. In 1704 he removed from Middletown to Solebury, purchasing William Croasdale's 250 acres, but at what time he came into Buckingham is not definitely known. The late Thomas Paxson was fifth in descent from James through Jacob, the first son by his second wife, Sarah Shaw, of Plumstead, whom he married in 1777. But three of Jacob Paxson's large family of children became residents of Bucks county, Thomas, who married Ann, granddaughter of William Johnson, and was the father of ex-Chief Justice Edward M. Paxson, of the State Supreme Court; the late Samuel Johnson Paxson, proprietor of the Doylestown *Democrat*; and Mary Paxson who married William H. Johnson, and died in 1862. William Johnson, probably of English descent, was born in Ireland, and received a good education. He came to Pennsylvania after his majority, bringing an extensive library for the times, settled in Bucks county, married Ann Potts,

and removed to South Carolina, where he died at the age of 35. His sons were all cultivated men, Thomas becoming an eminent lawyer, and dying in New Hope, in 1838. Samuel, the youngest son, spent his life in Buckingham, married Martha Hutchinson and died in 1843. Ten years ago Judge Paxson published the memoirs of the Johnson family with an auto-biography by Ann J. Paxson, his mother, containing a number of her poetical productions. Samuel Johnson was a poet of no mean merit, writing some really excellent verse. In his history of Buckingham Valley, one of the most productive and beautiful in the county he wrote,

"From the brow of Lihaska wide to the west,

The eye sweetly rests on the landscape below;

'Tis blooming at Eden, when Eden was blest,

As the sun lights its charms with the evening glow."

Two years and three months after William Penn and his immediate followers had landed on the shores of the Delaware John Chapman, of Yorkshire, England, with his wife, Jane, and children, Mara, Ann and John, took up his residence in the woods of Wrightstown, the first white settler north of Newtown. Being a staunch Friend, and having suffered numerous persecutions for opinion's sake, including the loss of property, he resolved to find a new home in the wilds of Pennsylvania. Of the early settlers of Wrightstown, the names of John Chapman, William Smith and Thomas Croasdale are mentioned in "Bessie's Collections," as having been frequently fined and imprisoned for non-conformity to the established religion, and for attendance on Friends' meeting. Leaving home June 21, 1684, and sailing from Aberdeen, Scotland, he reached Wrightstown toward the close of December. Before leaving England he bought a claim for 500 acres of one Daniel Toaes, which he located in the southern part of the township, extending from the park square to the Newtown line, on which the village of Wrightstown and Friends' Meeting House stand. Until able to build a log house, himself and family lived in a cave, where twin sons were born February 12, 1685. Game from the wood supplied them with food until crops were grown, and often the Indians, between whom and the Chapmans there was the most cordial friendship, were the only reliance. On one occasion, while his daughter Mara was riding through the woods, she overtook a frightened buck chased by a wolf, and it held quiet until she had secured it with the halter from her horse. The first house erected by John Chapman stood on the right hand side of the road leading from Wrightstown Meeting House to Pennsville, in a field that

formerly belonged to Charles Thompson. After a hard life in the wilderness, John Chapman died in 1694, and was buried in the old graveyard near Penns Park. His wife died in 1699. This was his second wife, Jane Saddler, born about 1635, and married June 12, 1670, and was the mother of two of his children. The children of John Chapman inter-married with the families of Croasdale, Wilkinson, Olden, Parsons and Worth, and the descendants are numerous. The late Dr. Chapman, of Wrightstown, and Abraham, of Doylestown, were grandsons of Joseph, one of the twins born in the cave.

The descendants of John Chapman have held many places of public trust, and, in the past, were in the Assembly, on the Bench, in the Senate Chamber, and Halls of Congress, at the head of the Loan Office, County Surveyor, County Treasurer, &c., &c. In the early history of the county they did much to mould its affairs. Ann Chapman, the daughter of John, became a distinguished minister among Friends, traveling as early as 1706, visiting England several times. The family added largely to the real estate originally held in Wrightstown and elsewhere, and, about 1720, the Chapmans owned nearly one-half the land in the township. The most prominent member of the family was the late ex-Judge Henry Chapman, a distinguished lawyer and jurist. In 1811 Seth Chapman was appointed President Judge of the Eighth Judicial District, Pa.

The Watsons came into the county the beginning of the 18th century, Thomas Watson, a maister, from Cumberland, England, settling near Bristol at a place called "Honey Hill," about 1701. His family consisted of his wife and sons Thomas and John. He brought with him a certificate from Friends' meeting at Pardsay Cragg, bearing date 7th month 23d, 1701. He married Eleanor Pearson, of Robank, in Yorkshire. He removed to Buckingham in 1704, and settled on a 450-acre tract bought of one Rosile, lying on the south-east side of the York road. Although he held Penn's warrant he declined to have the land surveyed without the consent of the Indians. He was a man of intelligence, and, there being no physician within several miles, he turned his attention to medicine, and built up a large practice before his death in 1731-32. He was interested in the education of the Indians, and it is said kept a school for them, but losing his most promising pupil by small-pox. Of his two sons, Thomas, the elder, died before his father, and the younger, John, studied medicine, took his father's place, was a successful practitioner, and died in 1760. John, the son of Thomas, born about 1720, finished his education at Jacob Taylor's Academy, Philadelphia, and became one of the first men in the province. He was a distinguished

mathematician and surveyor, and assisted to run the line between Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. He was noted for his elegant penmanship. He died in 1761, in his 42d year, at the house of William Blackfan, and was buried at Buckingham burying ground. The newspapers of the day expressed great regret at his death. John Watson was Secretary to Governor Morris at the Indian treaty at Easton, 1756. Franklin had promised to find the Governor a good penman, and mentioned Mr. Watson; and when the Governor's party marched up the York Road, Mr. Watson was out mending fence, barefooted, but, on invitation to accompany them, he threw down his axe and walked to Easton without any preparation for the journey. He engrossed the treaty on parchment, and his penmanship elicited great admiration. Franklin said that after the treaty was engrossed the Governor took off his hat to Watson, and remarked to him: "Since I first saw you I have been trying to make out what you are. I now have it. You are the greatest hypocrite in the world." In personal appearance he was a large, heavy man, and not prepossessing, but was both a scholar and a poet. He spoke good extempore verse. It is stated that on one occasion an Irishman, indicted for stealing a halter, asked Mr. Watson to defend him, and he consented. The testimony was posi-

tive, but he addressed the jury in fine extempore poetry, beginning:

"Indigent Nature generally bestows
All creatures knowledge of their mortal
foes," etc.,

and the fellow was acquitted. Thomas Penn wished John Watson to accept the office of Surveyor-General in 1760, which he declined. He has the credit of introducing the "New York cider" apple into Bucks county, by grafting two apple trees with it on his Buckingham farm, in February, 1757. John Watson was the grandfather of the late Judge Richard Watson, of Doylestown. Thomas Langhorne, of Westmoreland, England, arrived in 1684. He was a minister among Friends and brought a certificate from the Kendall Monthly meeting. He had been frequently imprisoned, and, in 1662, was fined £5 for attending Friends meeting. He took up a large tract of land below Attleborough, now Langhorne, running down to Neshaminy, and settled in Middletown. He represented the county in the first Assembly, and died October 6, 1687. Proud styles him "an eminent preacher." Thomas Langhorne was the father of Jeremiah Langhorne, who became Chief Justice of the Province. The son was a man of mark in the new Commonwealth, wielding large influence, and died October 11, 1742. He became a heavy land owner. The homestead tract of 800 acres, known as "Langhorne Park," lay on the Durham road, and the borough of Langhorne is built on

part of it. He owned 2000 acres in Warwick and New Britain townships, purchased of the Free Society of Traders; two thousand and Perkasia, and a large tract on the Monocacy, now in Lehigh, but then in Bucks county. He owned the ground on which Doylestown is built. In his will dated May 16, 1742, he made liberal provision for his negroes, of whom he owned a number. They who had reached twenty-four years of age, were to be manumitted, and others set free at the age of 21. A few received especial marks of his favor, among them Joe, Cudjo and London, who were to live at the park until his nephew, Thomas Biles, to whom it was left, became of age; and were to have the use of the necessary stock, and support all the women and children on the place at a rental of £30 per annum. Joe and Cudjo were given life estates in certain lands in Warwick, covering the site of Doylestown, after they left the park. For a few of his favorites he directed houses to be built, and 50 acres allotted to each during their lives; specifying in his will that the negroes were to work for their support, but there is great doubt whether they kept their part of the testamentary contract.

The mansion of Jeremiah Langhorne, Manor House as called in ye olden time, has always been an object of interest. It was built of stone, without any regard to architectural beauty or effect, with two wings, and stood on the site of the dwelling late Charles Osborne's, two miles above Hulmeville. The old road from Philadelphia to Trenton, crossing the Neshaminy just above Hulmeville, made a sweep around by the Langhorne house, and thence to Trenton by the way of Attleborough. The park was long since cut up into several farms, and the last vestige of the mansion obliterated. It is possible the site of the dwelling is known. If so that is all. In 1794, four hundred and fifty acres were sold to Henry Drinker, Samuel Smith and Thomas Fisher, and the part unsold, 285 acres, was called "Guinea." A portion of this tract is in the borough of Langhorne. The last of the Langhorne slaves was one known as "Fiddler Bill," who lived sometimes in the ruins of an old house on the premises, but was finally taken to the almshouse where he died.

From,

Ledger
Philade^a OH

Date,

Feby 9. 1895

An Interesting Bit of Local History.

Ex-Senator Wm. Klessey, of Bucks county, a few days ago purchased the property of Mrs. Alice Rousseau, of this city, situated at the corner of Cedar and Mulberry streets, Bristol, for \$13,000, upon which it is proposed to erect a new Methodist Episcopal church. A week or two previously George Bradford Carr, of this city, attorney for the church, sold to Mrs. Catharine Borsch the three properties at the southwest corner of Twelfth and Spruce streets, 20 by 120 feet, for \$18,000, as mentioned in this column at the time. Connected with these properties there is an interesting bit of local history, as follows: The ground was bought in 1815 by William Carson, of this city, who subsequently built the three properties. He died in 1828, leaving his estate to Rachel Carson, his widow. Many years after this Mrs. Carson was visiting Bristol with her daughter, when the latter was taken very ill and died. The members of the church were exceedingly kind to Mrs. Carson in her misfortune, and when her daughter died she was buried in their churchyard. Mrs. Carson, in appreciation of their kindness, when she came to make her will, in 1854, devised her entire estate, subject to several life-estates which have since expired, to the Bristol Methodist Episcopal Church, which recently parted with it, and will use a portion of the funds in erecting a new edifice this spring.

Old Deed Found in Bucks' Archives.

specia' to the Inquirer.
DOYLESTOWN, March 23.—An old-time deed was unearthed at the Recorder's office here yesterday. It was dated 1738, and consisted of a piece of sheepskin two and a half feet long and eleven inches wide which was as tough as buffalo hide. The document was signed by Bartholomew Longstreth as a transfer of property in Westminster to William Spencer.

From,

Intelligencer
Doylestown Pa

Date,

March 1st 95

THE ROSS MANSION.

HOW IT FIGURED IN DOYLES- TOWN'S EARLY HISTORY.

It was Once Known as the Indian Queen Tavern.—The Tract was Originally Owned by a "Welcome" Passenger.—The Names of Many Prominent Men Interwoven with Its Past.

The Ross mansion and triangle of land at the intersection of Court and Main

streets, Doylestown, which is to be sold at public sale at 1 o'clock this afternoon, has a most interesting history. The mansion itself dates back to the opening of the century, while many prominent men held title to the land.

Originally it was a portion of a large tract of land in New Britain, sold by the trustees of the Free Society of Traders to Jonathan Kirkbride. This tract lay northwest of what is now Court street, then the dividing line between New Britain and Warwick townships.

Kirkbride came over in the Welcome with William Penn, settled in Falls and is one of the conspicuous first settlers. There is some doubt as to whether he ever lived on the land he owned on the site of Doylestown. William Doyle, a prominent member of the family after which Doylestown was subsequently named, bought 100 acres from Kirkbride in 1737. This 100 acres was a peculiarly-shaped tract. It was only 50 perches wide, the line extending along Court street to Broad, out Broad street and Dutch Lane to the road beyond the Menonite Meeting House, a distance of about a mile; then 50 perches southwest, then in a straight line back to the place of beginning on Court street. The tract covered portions of the town now occupied by the Ross mansion, the Court House, the Monument House and the dwellings on Main street from Court to Broad.

In 1750 Israel Pemberton bought 32 acres from William Doyle, probably after or just about the time the latter moved to Plumstead. Pemberton sold 17 acres to Edward Doyle, Jr., who had inherited from his father. Edward Doyle, Sr., other property adjoining William Doyle's tract. The younger Edward went to Philadelphia, where he became financially involved, and in 1771 his land here was sold by Sheriff Elliot to Nathan Preston. The same year Preston transferred 10 acres to John Robinson, who came to Doylestown in 1756 and who had previously (in 1760) purchased 28 acres from Pemberton, adjoining his later purchase from Preston. Robinson probably lived in a house at the corner of the Coryell's Ferry and Easton roads, and owned other land in Doylestown.

Thus, at the outbreak of the Revolution, we find Robinson, through his purchases from Pemberton and Preston, in possession of the whole southwest end of the William Doyle tract, including the subsequent Ross and Court House tracts. Old and infirm, Robinson in 1779 sold this property, comprising about forty acres, to Joseph and Jesse Fell, brothers, who came here from Buckingham township and were descended from one of the oldest English settlers, their grandfather having come to this county in 1706.

Now we come to the first mention of a building on the Ross tract, a blacksmith shop, in which Joseph Fell talked politics so suavely while he shod the farmers' oxen, that he was elected High Sheriff of Bucks and served from 1795 to 1798. In 1788 he bought his brother's interest in the property, and Jesse, who, it appears, was a merchant, moved to the Wyoming Valley.

Sheriff Fell died in 1802, and, when his estate was sold that year, Nathaniel Shewell, grandson of Welshman Walter Shewell, of Painswick Hall, Doylestown,

bought five acres on Court street, embodying the tract we have in view. It was either Fell or Shewell who built a dwelling here, and the old Fell blacksmith shop was the germ of the Ross mansion. By a glance at the arches turned over the cellar windows and the masonry of the southwest corner of the house, where the shop stood, it is easily to be seen that this portion of the building is the oldest. The location of the building, at the intersection of two important highways, being advantageous for a public house, Shewell soon turned the dwelling into a tavern, known as the "Indian Queen."

In the romantic history of early Doylestown the "Indian Queen" was a noted place and men of prominence were its landlords. The first was probably Shewell himself, who kept hotel at another place here before he became owner of the "Indian Queen." Among the subsequent landlords were — Hare, Frederick Nicholas, Associate Judge William Watts, Abraham Black, Sheriff Stephen Brock (from 1816 to 1818), and William McHenry, who was probably its last landlord. The place ceased to be a public house during the ownership of Judge Watts.

The transfers from Shewell's time to the present were: Nathaniel Shewell to Judge William Watts, April 14, 1818; Watts to Hon. John Ross, May 25, 1824. The Hon. John Ross devised the property to his son Thomas Ross, who in turn willed it to his son Judge Henry P. Ross, at whose death it was purchased by the late Hon. George Ross.

Thus, it will be seen, the historic old property has been in the possession of the distinguished members of the Ross family for nearly three-quarters of a century. It is now one of the oldest dwellings in the town, and certainly about no other mansion is woven such a network of tradition, history and politics. It is one of the few remaining links that bind the present to the past century.

The old mansion is in a good state of preservation and has been greatly enlarged by substantial additions from time to time. Embowered in tall shade trees, it is one of the most quaint and picturesque of buildings. The tract of land upon which it stands is exceedingly valuable and would be a desirable purchase, either for individuals or for the county. The 104th Regiment Battle Monument stands upon the south angle of the property, and the short strip of street between the monument and the mansion is a private way, which can be closed at the pleasure of the property's owner.

From,

James
Philad^a Pa

Date,

May 27, 1895

HISTORIC BRISTOL

A Brief Sketch of the Famous 'Old Town and People.

Special Telegram to THE TIMES.

BRISTOL, May 25.

This old town, the site of which was originally granted by Sir Edmund Andros to Samuel Clift in 1681, embracing a tract of 240 acres, by reason of its great antiquity, is full of historical anecdotes of interest to the present generation.

The land was willed by Clift to his son-in-law, John Young, in the following year, and the legatee sold it in 1695 to Anthony Burton and Thomas Brock for £90 currency. In 1697, upon petition of the inhabitants of the tract, the Provincial Council ordered a market town laid out at the ferry, opposite Burlington, and Phineas Pemberton was ordered to make a survey according to the plans submitted.

In 1715 a petition signed by Anthony Burton, John Hall, William Watson, Joseph Boud and others was forwarded to England, asking for the privilege of being incorporated as a borough, and five years later, November 14, 1720, letters patent were issued by the Crown, acceding to the request to incorporate Bristol from a portion of Budslingham.

Joseph Bond and John Hall were the first Burgesses, and Thomas Clift was invested with the dignity of High Constable.

Strange to relate, the old charter, with its antique and cumbersome features, with the addition of a few more modern amendments, still is in force and by reason of the refusal of the State Senate recently to pass a special act allowing the townspeople the privilege of amending their old charter in order to incur a bonded indebtedness sufficient to provide a suitable and much-needed sewage system, much inconvenience was occasioned the people. The charter provides that the bonded indebtedness of the borough shall not exceed \$10,000, and until this is changed money cannot be secured to make permanent improvements that are greatly needed. The people are indignant that the pull of a single lobbyist kept them from getting the privileges accorded by a more modern legislation and boroughs, and some of these days will get awake and apply to the State Legislature for a charter under the new State law, and will work a miracle in this beautiful and advantageously located town upon the Delaware.

Here it was that the first seat of justice in Bucks county was established in 1705. In that the year the Assembly authorized the erection of a court house, which was accordingly built on Cedar street, above Market, on the ground on which the residence of William Booz now stands. It was a two-story brick structure, 24 by 24 feet, with a whipping post attached, which tradition relates was frequently used. A beam extended from a gable of the house, to be used as a gallows, but this was never used. The upper room was used as the court house, and the lower for a prison. In 1725 a more central location was desired for the convening of court, and building and lot were sold to John de Normandy. In 1772 the borough authorities purchased it, and for many years the borough Solons met in the upper room, while school and elections were held in the lower room. In 1834 the local historian, Squire William Kinsey, purchased the property from the borough for \$1,000, tore down the old house and erected the dwelling now owned by William Booz.

A curious story is told of the way the borough authorities were influenced to erect the present peculiar-looking "town house," at the intersection of Radcliffe and Market streets, and to secure a bequest of \$200 spent \$3,725. It appears that a worthy citizen of the town, named Samuel Scotton,

thought the place where the borough fathers met was not a suitable one, and in the early part of the present century, previous to his demise, willed the sum of \$200 toward the construction of a town hall, provided steps were taken to erect the building within five years after his wife's death. The bequest had been forgotten, and one time, about four years and ten months after the worthy lady's death, a Burgess of the town, while looking over some papers, came across a copy of the document. He hastily called the borough fathers together and laid the matter before them. They at once decided the chance was too good to be lost, and agreed to erect a town hall at once, with a town clock. Then trouble arose as to the location of the proposed hall. Some wanted one place, some another, and a great many urged that it be built on Radcliffe street, so that parties passing along the Delaware river in boats could see what a metropolitan air the town had assumed with a municipal building and a town clock. So the present site was purchased, including a strip of



THE TOWN HOUSE.

ground 13 feet wide, to make a roadway on each side of the hall, and the building was roofed in just in time to get the \$200. It was completed in 1832, and for many years prisoners were put into a cell in the basement, while the Council met on the second story, and some years ago a fish market on the ground floor made the place odoriferous. Finally, the fish market was vacated, and the place fixed for the accommodation of malefactors and tramps, while the borough Council erected another story on the building of Engine Company No. 1, and transferred their meeting place there, and now the room once occupied by the local lawmakers is used as a practicing place by a fife and drum corps.

From, *Satellite*

May 29 1890

Date, _____

FLAG PRESENTATION.

COLORS RECEIVED BY THE 104TH SURVIVORS' ASSOCIATION.

Ceremonies at the Presentation of the Beautiful Flag by Hon. John Wanamaker on Tuesday Evening—A Pleasing and Interesting Occasion.

The members of the Survivors' Association of the gallant 104th Regiment, Pa. Vols., Bucks county's cracked regiment during the rebellion, had a gala night on the evening of Tuesday, May 28th, when amid music, song and speech, they received from the hands of the Hon. John Wanamaker a beautiful stand of color, which he had promised to present to them when he addressed them at their annual reunion at Newtown in September last.

The presentation and reception of the regimental flag took place in the hall of Post 2, G. A. R., 12th street, above Wallace, Philadelphia. The hall was crowded with the members of the association, their wives and children, and the veterans were unanimous in declaring that it was one of the most pleasing events they had ever attended.

Members of the association were present from Newtown, Bristol, Newportville, New Hope, Hartsville, Doylestown, Hatboro, Lambertville, Trenton, Reading and others places. Among those who had come a long distance to be with his old comrades was the assistant surgeon of the 104th Regiment, Dr. Platt E. Bush, of Springville, Susquehanna county, Pa.

The committee of arrangement, was composed of the following: Charles G. Cadwallader, E. S. McIntosh, Dr. W. T. Robinson, John Crock, H. A. Widdifield, Edwin Fretz, L. A. Rosenberger, Capt. Alfred Marple, B. F. Jarrett, A. B. Wampoie, Ely K. Walton, A. M. Rapp, Oliver Walton, Major T. B. Scarborough. They had planned a pleasing programme and did all that could be done to make it pleasant for all who had the pleasure of being present.

Shortly after 8 o'clock Charles G. Cadwallader, president of the association, called the meeting to order. He stated why they had gathered together and the exercises were opened by the audience singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

While waiting for Mr. Wanamaker to put in an appearance the audience was treated to some fine vocal and instrumental music. When Mr. Wanamaker appeared in the hall he was greeted with a storm of applause by the audience.

Upon being introduced to the audience by the president, Mr. Wanamaker said that as this is a kind of a family reunion he would open his remarks by telling a story of an old Irishman who was sitting at his dinner table one day. When he addressed the veterans at Newtown at

their last reunion, as he stepped upon the platform he heard the commander calling upon the ladies to make an effort to raise money to purchase a new flag for the association. He did not know what put it into his head to ask them to give him the privilege of having the honor of presenting them with a new stand of colors, an exact reproduction of the old flag that they had carried through swamp and battlefield. Mr. Wanamaker regretted that he had not the right to wear a Grand Army button, and said he would readily surrender nearly everything he had for that honor. But it was not his fault that he was not a soldier of the rebellion. When he made application for enlistment in 1861 he was refused by the examining surgeon and told to go home.

In speaking about pensions Mr. Wanamaker made some humorous remarks which drew forth exclamations of approval from some of the veterans in the audience. No one, he said, should say the pensions were too large and the list too long.

In closing his remarks he said: I rejoice in the privilege to-night of presenting you with the flag. It comes to you emblazoned with the names of the battle fields, but not as beautiful as the old battle flag. You went away with only the flag that bore the stars and stripes but brought it back covered with glory. Let the new flag always be a reminder of what the old flag was once, and let it simply illustrate that you are always ready to put it in the front if the country ever calls for it. It was an exceeding pleasure to have been at the meeting at Newtown and the honor you gave me to present the flag.

When Mr. Wanamaker closed the veterans gave him three hearty cheers.

The flag was accepted on behalf of the association by Major W. H. Lambert. The Major said it was a high privilege to voice the sentiment of the association to return thanks to Mr. Wanamaker for the beautiful gift. Such a gift should be formally acknowledged. While the regiment accepts the beautiful flag the sad thought comes to us that it is a memorial. In speaking of the old battle flags the Major said the flags were intrusted to this organization, not for a holiday parade, but around which the men could rally in time of danger. These flags were borne through the swamps and the battle fields, and what was left of them were borne in grand review at the end of the four years' war. What more appropriate present could be made an organization than the one made by Mr. Wanamaker. Memorial for all that is past; promise for all that is to come for the country. The splendid gift speaks for itself. Those names there emblazoned answer for themselves. It suggests to you not only the battles fought and won, but those who stood besides you. In committing to your care this beautiful flag, loyalty and patriotism is secure in the hands of those who fought for loyalty and patriotism. Upon the conclusion of Major Lambert's address three cheers were given for the speaker and the flag.

The exercises were brought to a close by a beautiful and appropriate prayer by Rev. Dr. Thomas.

The colors were unfurled upon the platform and the audience was invited to come forward and inspect them.

The following was the programme as carried out:

Singing, "My Country 'Tis of Thee," audience; violin solo, Dr. Rosenberger accompanied by Miss Scheck; solo, George Ford; solo, Miss Sara Jarrett; solo, M. Harmer Brooks; recitation, "Why We Wear the Badge," Inspector Suydam; presentation of flag, Hon. John Wanamaker; solo, George Ford, encore; reception of flag, Major W. H. Lambert; song, "Rally Round the Flag," audience; piano solo, Miss Edna Hax (Edna is only 5½ years old); reading of letters from Mayor Warwick, Captain Marple and Thomas B. Scarborough, (who were unable to be present); solo, Miss Sara Jarrett; solo, M. Harmer Brooks; resolution of thanks to all who had taken part in the entertainment; violin solo, Dr. Rosenberger; benediction, Dr. Thomas.

The next reunion of the association will be held at Reading in connection with the reunion of Durell's Battery, which was a part of the regiment while it was encamped at Camp Lacey, Doylestown, in 1861.

The officers of the association are: President, Charles G. Cadwallader; vice president, Thomas P. Chambers; recording secretary, E. S. McIntosh; corresponding secretary, H. A. Widdifield; treasurer, John Crock.

From, *Democrat*
Doylestown PA
 Date, *June 7 1895*

TO BE HELD ON HISTORIC GROUND

Eighth Annual Meeting of the Buckwampun Association.

Saturday, June 15, 1895, the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association of Upper Bucks and Lower Northampton counties will hold its eighth annual meeting in Henry Stover's beautiful grove at the village of Durham. The place of meeting is of great historic interest. It was here in all probability the first iron was made in the State of Pennsylvania, although the first furnace was not erected until 1728. Tradition in the locality as early as 1779 and handed down to the present tells us that iron was manufactured on a small scale in a bloomery or strickofen earlier than the erection of the 1727 iron works.

Here many prominent men of the period between 1728 and later resided among them George Taylor, the Signer; James Morgan, father of General Daniel Morgan; Richard Backhouse, one of the more prominent aids in furnishing supplies of horses and ammunition during the Revolutionary War, which greatly aided in making that war a success. And here the renowned General Daniel Morgan, commander of the "Neverfalls" Virginia Riflemen, was born and raised

to manhood. Captain George Hineine and Captain Andrew Raup here recruited men to fill the constantly decimated army of Washington, and personally led their recruits in the front ranks of the Colonial army.

Time does not permit going into a lengthy discussion of the history of this locality, but all interested in local history and kindred matters are cordially invited to meet with the Association June 15, and see for themselves.

The Secretary of the Association will cheerfully conduct visitors to the various places of historic interest along the banks of the equally historic Durham Creek. In this he will be aided by members of the Association, and others to the manor born.

IN HISTORY'S REFLECTION.

BUCKWAMPUN MEETS ON SACRED SOIL.

Durham Entertains the Association on Its Eighth Anniversary.—Able Historical Papers Read During the Day.—President Hindenach's Address.

It has been the good fortune of the Buckwampun Literary Association to be favored with fine weather upon the occasion of their pleasant annual gatherings in the groves of upper Bucks to listen to historical essay, recitation and music, but Saturday was especially auspicious for the meeting at Durham. Durham is particularly rich in historical associations. It was, during the Revolution, not only the seat of the iron works which so effectually aided the Continental cause, but it had been the home of the great General Daniel Morgan, whose fame is second to that of no leader in the War for Independence, save the beloved Commander-in-Chief himself.

It was a day when nature was all smiles. The fair county of Bucks ne'er wore a more luxuriant garb. Hill and brake and fen, stream and wood and glen invited admiration with such persistence that even the most prosaic said "How beautiful." Durham wore the livery of holiday and the spirit of gayety, and many were the people who contributed to the festivities of the occasion.

The Frenchtown Cornet Band was on hand and contributed lively airs during the afternoon. Promptly at 1 o'clock the tall figure of President C. E. Hindenach arose and asked the audience to come to

order. President Hindenach is the well-known Legislator, teacher and now joint proprietor of the large Durham store, kept for so many years by the Bachmans. He is a fine speaker, and in a clear, ringing voice he began his address to the eighth annual meeting. He said:

PRESIDENT HINDENACH'S ADDRESS.

Members of the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,

Who never to himself hath said,
"This is my own, my native land?"

Standing as we do to-day, over a century beyond the period of time when the actors of this community, whose lives and achievements we propose to consider, lived and moved upon the stage of action. I know you will pardon me when I say that it is with a spirit somewhat akin to that embodied in the immortal lines just quoted that I stand before you now, and in behalf of the good people of Durham bid you welcome to our annual meeting. It has been my privilege as president of this organization, to welcome you on a number of similar occasions in the past, which naturally afforded me much pleasure, and I can only say that it affords me an unusual degree of pleasure and satisfaction to thus welcome you now, since to-day you have come to honor my own community with your presence.

True, we as an organization, have convened in localities more rugged, grand and sublime, where nature presented to our view scenes calculated to arouse within our minds feelings of wonder and astonishment. But to-day we are privileged to feast our eyes on the harmonious blending of the teeming valley, the sloping hillside, the waving fields of grain, the rugged peak, the beautiful grove, clad in its rich garb of green, aye, the rippling waters of the historic Durham Creek, flowing on and on so merrily, soon to mingle with and become a part of the waters of the boundless ocean.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have indeed this day made a pilgrimage to historic grounds. Near the spot where yonder grist mill now stands the first Durham furnace was erected in 1728, and continued in active operation until 1792. It was at these iron works that a large portion of cannon balls, double-headed shot, grape and canister, bombshells and other effective peacemakers of the Revolutionary period were manufactured and transported down the Delaware River, to supply the Continental army in its heroic struggle for National supremacy.

We are in possession of unmistakable evidence that iron was manufactured at Durham as early, if not a few years earlier, than anywhere else in Pennsylvania, and that the first stoves, as well as the first steel carriage springs credited to Pennsylvania, were manufactured at the Durham forge and out of iron mined from the Durham hills yonder, in about 1777.

It was here, within the bounds of little Durham, that a number of patriotic men, who participated, directly or indirectly, in the Revolutionary struggle, were born, or resided a part of their lives.

But a short distance down the Durham Creek is the spot claimed as the birthplace of General Daniel Morgan, the organizer and captain of the celebrated company called "The Never Fails."

Among the remaining noted characters we find the name of George Taylor, one of the signers of that immortal document, the Declaration of Independence; Richard Backhouse, owner of the cannon ball factory; Thomas McKeen, the celebrated school master and financier; Dr. Daniel Dungan, the smallpox inoculator; Isaac Burson, the noted agriculturist, and Thomas Pursell, the founder of

the village of Monroe, now known as Lehnburg.

The research necessary in the preparation of papers on historical subjects beyond a doubt, requires more time and labor than that of any other subject and the writer should never lose sight of the fact that two things are absolutely essential to render historical records interesting, namely: *time* and *place*, or chronology and geography; for without these nothing can possibly possess historical importance. Hence, too many dates can not well be given; this is chronology. All localities where important events or occurrences transpired should be definitely and unmistakably pointed out; this is geography. Dates and names of persons and places are inseparably associated with historical records.

What associations cluster around our memories, what emotions heave within our breasts at the mere mentioning of Independence Hall, Mount Vernon, Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Appomattox and yet they are mere spots on the earth's surface, but combined with dates and occurrences and events, their true significance is ascertained, and it is only in this way that progress can be definitely traced. The newspapers of to-day will be history to-morrow, so will all recent events and occurrences become interesting and invaluable to future generations yet unborn.

It is to be hoped that the reading of the records of the noted characters who formed the links of the great chain of human industry, civic valor and patriotism of Durham and surrounding community in the past, as well as the stirring strains of music falling with sweet and pleasing cadence on the listening ear, will embalm our memories with pleasant and profitable recollections of this day and stimulate within us a pure and noble ambition to fulfill the great end of life, so that when the future historian shall record our life's work—humble though it may be—he may find his task as pleasant and profitable as is ours to-day.

And now, ladies and gentleman, I thank you for your kind attention, for it certainly augurs well for the interest that will undoubtedly be manifested in the exercises to follow, and once more, in behalf of the good people of Durham, among whom you have come, and among whom I trust you may have a pleasant sojourn, I extend to you a most cordial welcome.

The following is the complete programme:

Sketch of Durham Village, Miss Fannie Simpson.

History of Durham Church, Rev. S. H. Phillips.

Music.

The Residents of Durham during the Revolution, (1775-83) Historian William J. Buck.

Rufe's School House and its Teachers, Rev. O. H. Mechor.

The Descendents of the Fackenthal Family, H. F. Ruth.

Music.

Riegelsville and its Editors, Ryan Rapp.

Living Within One's Means, A. B. Harding, Esq.

Springfield Schools, Miss Myra Brodt.

Music.

Sketch of Quakertown, Miss Lizzie Yost.

Importance of Saving Family Papers, Walter S. Buck.

Olden Time Militia, Miss Clara R. Laubach.

Music.

The Stover Family, Henry Stover, Esq.

Necrology, Charles Lautbach.

All these papers were well prepared and contained a wealth of historical lore that made them exceedingly valuable.

The officers of the Buckwampun Society, to whom the success of the meeting was largely due, are: President, Hon. C. E. Hindenach; Secretary, Charles Lautbach; Executive Committee, Clayton Judd, Hon. R. K. Bachman, Dr. N. S. Rice, John Knecht, Henry Stover, Edward Hollenbach, H. H. Youngken, Zachariah Purdy, George Riegel, Charles Wasser, Henry Rufe and George B. Seifert.

From, *Press*

Philad & Pa

Date, *June 19/95*

A PILGRIMAGE TO BRANDYWINE.

**Sons of the Revolution Visit
the Chester County Battle-
field.**

ERRORS OF THE CONFLICT.

**Dr. Stone, of the Historical Society,
Reviews the Clash of the Armies
to a Large Assemblage at
Birmingham Meeting
House.**

Special Despatch to "The Press."

West Chester, June 18.—The Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the Revolution, accompanied by a number of distinguished guests, arrived in West Chester on a special train at 11 o'clock this morning, where they were met by the local branch of the society and by the Chester County Historical Society, and escorted by them over the battlefield of the Brandywine.

The committee having general supervision of the trip was composed of Alexander Krumbharr, Dr. Alexander Williams Biddle, Charles Sydney Bradford, Jr., Charles A. Brinley, Richard McCall, Cadwalader, Richard Strader Collum,

James DeWale Cookman, James May Duane, Edward Johnson Etting, Lincoln Godfrey, Sydney Pemberton Hutchinson, Josiah Granville Leach, John Selby Martin, Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker, Sutherland Mallet Prevost, Lawrence Taylor Paul, George Wharton Pepper, Thomas Potter, Jr., Walter George Smith, John Conyngham Stevens, Charlemagne Tower, Jr., and Ethan Allen Weaver.

TWO HUNDRED VISITORS.

There were about 200 members of the society present, headed by the president, Major William Wayne. Among the prominent guests were Dr. Charles J. Stille, president of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Dr. Frederick D. Stone, of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Dr. Edward Shippen, president of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania; Julius F. Sachse, local historian of Chester County, and Colonel John P. Nicholson, of the Loyal Legion.

The visitors were driven to Sconnettstown, and thence to Osborne's Hill, where they were given an opportunity to survey the ground from a high elevation, and finally to the ancient Birmingham Meeting House.

DR. STONE'S ADDRESS.

Beneath the shady old oaks at this historic spot, and on the anniversary of the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British, the members of the society gathered about the tables at 1 o'clock and partook of a sumptuous repast. Frederick D. Stone, secretary of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, was then introduced, and delivered the following address:—

"I have been asked to speak to you to-day on the events connected with the Battle of Brandywine. We must turn back to the Winter of '76 when Washington checked the tide of disaster that threatened to overwhelm him, with the victory at Trenton. Brilliant as it was in its conception and execution, it was followed up by the still more brilliant movement at Princeton, where, after having withdrawn his army from a perilous position at Trenton, Washington turned the left flank of the enemy, marched directly through his lines, destroyed communications between the advance guard near Trenton and the reserve at Princeton, drove the latter in confusion back to Brunswick, and then sought shelter for his almost exhausted troops on the high ground around Morristown.

"With characteristic slowness Howe allowed the entire Spring of '77 to pass before he took the field, nor were his movements then marked with that confidence that his superiority in both numbers and equipments should have inspired. Early in July he embarked his troops and on the 23d of July, under the protection of the fleet, passed Sandy Hook and sailed for the Chesapeake. It is hard to understand Howe's reason for undertaking this expedition. At Amboy he was almost as near to Philadelphia as he was afterward at the Head of Elk. To march from the latter to Philadelphia he was obliged to sever his connection with his base and defeat Washington before he could enter the city. He could have followed the same course in New Jersey with an equal chance of success, and, having defeated Washington, he could have crossed the Delaware at his leisure, leaving New Jersey a half-conquered State in his rear, across which he could have established posts reaching to New York. The expedition undoubtedly had its origin in the traitorous brain of Charles Lec, then a prisoner in the hands of the British.

THE EARLY MANEUVERS.

"When Washington saw Howe evacuate New Jersey he supposed he would move up the Hudson to co-operate with Burgoyne, who was advancing from Canada, and he was at a loss what to expect next when he learned that the fleet had passed Sandy Hook and had sailed southward. Finally, on the 22d of August, he heard that Howe had entered the Chesapeake and at once put his army in motion to meet him. Three weeks passed before they met. In the meanwhile Washington marched to Wilmington, and after thoroughly reconnoitering the country down to the Head of Elk, established his lines along Red Clay Creek. Howe's army disembarked at the Head of Elk on the 25th. His advance was slow, as several days were spent in collecting horses. On September 3 he arrived at Aitken's Tavern, where a severe skirmish took place with Maxwell's corps, which was driven back. It seemed now as if the conflict was to be fought along the Red Clay Creek, and on September 5 Washington issued a stirring appeal to his army, which was then composed of about 12,000 men. Howe's command numbered 17,000, but he made no attack, and Washington discovered that while he was endeavoring to leave the impression that he was about to attack his left flank he was massing his troops on the American right. Fearing that he might push past him in that direction and gain the roads leading to Philadelphia or crowd him to the Delaware, Washington decided to cross the Brandywine and throw his army directly in Howe's path on September 8. The Pennsylvania militia guarded the fords below Chadd's.

"At daybreak Howe's army, was in motion. Knyphausen with from 7000 to 10,000 men marched through Kennett Square toward Chadd's Ford. Another division, 7000 strong, under Cornwallis took a road running to the north leading to one that crossed the west branch of the Brandywine at Trimble's Ford and the east branch at Jeffrey's Ford. Howe accompanied this column. It was his plan that Knyphausen should engage the attention of Washington until Cornwallis could gain a position from which he could attack his right, and only too well for the good of the American cause was it carried out. Washington soon learned that Cornwallis had turned his flank and was not two miles distant.

"The British general ordered his men to advance. They were in contrast to the Continental troops that stood on the opposite hill awaiting their attack. Of these no two were dressed alike; the best wore hunting shirts, others were almost naked. Every variety of arms could be seen in a single company. Their tactics were of the most primitive character.

THE FIRST SHOTS.

"The first shots were fired by the Americans from an orchard on the Jones' property on the west side of the road leading here, at the corner of the Street road. It was not until the British reached that road that they returned the fire. Then they sprang upon the bank at the side and fired at the Americans through the fence. Sullivan was attempting to close the distance between his division, and had not completed the movement when the British were upon him. His troops were soon thrown into confusion and were swept past this place, passing to the rear of the meeting house. It was then that Lafayette was wounded while endeavoring to rally the troops.

A short distance from here another stand was made, but the British had succeeded in separating Sullivan's forces and he was again obliged to fall back. He did so, fighting desperately. He wrote afterward that for fifty-one minutes the hill was disputed almost muzzle to muzzle, and Conway, who had seen service in Europe, had never before witnessed so close and severe a fire. As

Washington heard the sound of battle drawing closer and closer to him, he understood only too well what it meant. He ordered Greene to take the reserve and reinforce the right wing while he with a guide mounted on the horse of one of his aids rode in the direction from which the sound of the firing came.

"With the brigades of Muhlenberg, Weedon and Nash, Greene hurried to the scene of conflict. As he approached it he ordered Weedon to take a position across a defile that commanded the road over which the enemy was advancing. With the remainder of the force he pressed on to hold Cornwallis in check, while Sullivan's men could pass to the rear. This he did and then fell slowly back followed by the enemy. When the latter reached that part of the road commanded by Weedon, they received a withering fire that threw them into confusion. The position here taken by the Americans was stoutly disputed. The conduct of the brigades of Weedon and Muhlenberg and of the regiments of Stevens and Walter Stewart was especially brilliant.

"When Knyphausen heard that Cornwallis was engaged he attempted to cross at Chadd's Ford and force the American left, but Wayne, although outnumbered four to one, held him back until the retreat of the right enabled Knyphausen to turn his flank, when he, too, was obliged to retire, which he did in good order. In the retreat a howitzer was left behind for a short time, but through the bravery of Colonel Chambers, assisted by Captain Buchanan and Lieutenants Simpson and Douglass, it was rescued.

THE END OF THE DAY.

"Night finally ended the battle and the American army retreated to Chester, from which place at midnight Washington informed Congress of the loss of the day. While the Frenchman, De Borre, whose troops were thrown into confusion early in the day, said, 'It was not his fault if the Americans would run away,' there is sufficient evidence to show that they made as good a resistance as was to be expected from men so poorly armed and equipped. After the first onslaught it took Cornwallis about forty minutes to drive Sullivan's disordered troops one mile. The British loss in killed, wounded and missing is reported to have been about 600, that of the Americans 1000.

"As the troops advanced a chronicler following in the wake of the army saw the doors and shutters of this building torn from the hinges and used as stretchers on which to carry the wounded beneath this roof in this humane work he assisted and witnessed here, surgical operations that to-day would be considered barbarous.

"An English woman who resided on the other side of the stream, was a member of the Society of Friends. As Knyphausen was marching towards Chadd's Ford, so anxious was she to prevent bloodshed that she run out of the lane leading to her house and exclaimed 'Oh! dear man do not go down there, George Washington is on the other side of the stream and he has all the men in this world with him.' 'Never mind, madam,' replied Knyphausen, 'I have all the men in the other world with me.' Just where Knyphausen recruited his troops it is rather difficult to understand.

"At the time, the battle was felt to be a humiliating defeat. It opened the way to Philadelphia and destroyed the hopes that had been raised by the victories of Trenton and Princeton that the ill armed American levies were more than a match for their fully equipped and well disciplined opponents. It was necessary to lay the blame at somebody's door and Sullivan, it was decided, was responsible for the defeat. Burk, of

North Carolina, one of the Congressmen who had witnessed the battle, preferred charges against him. He offered a series of resolutions, declaring that it was the sense of Congress that Sullivan had neglected his duty in not informing himself about the upper fords of the Brandywine; that he had been ordered to do so and had had ample time; that he forwarded false information to the General that led to the defeat; that he brought his troops into action in a disorder from which they never recovered, and finally that he had not sufficient talents for his rank and Washington was requested to remove him. But Washington evidently had not lost faith in Sullivan. It was his army that had been outflanked and he made no attempt to place the blame on his subordinates' shoulders. He could ill afford to spare a General of Sullivan's experience and he asked Congress in the most pressing manner to suspend the order. It was granted but Chase, of Maryland, immediately asked that the troops from his State be removed from under Sullivan's command. Read, of Delaware, moved that the name of his State be inserted with that of Maryland.

COMMAND WAS TOO LATE.

"This action was, in the main, just. Sullivan was personally brave. He handled his troops well and had the confidence of his officers, but it is impossible to acquit him of the charge of having failed to inform himself of the country and of the position of the fords to his right. In not doing this he appeared to have lacked the qualities of a true general. It has been generally accepted as a fact that the false information furnished by Major Spear, of the militia, contributed to the defeat of the day, and had it not been for that Washington's plan to overcome Knyphausen before Cornwallis could aid him would have been successful. A careful examination of the evidence leads me to a different conclusion. Washington's order to Greene and Sullivan to cross and attack Knyphausen was given so late in the day that I believe Cornwallis would have gained a position directly in his rear before he could have driven Knyphausen from his ground and that Washington's defeat under those circumstances would have been even more disastrous than it was.

After the address the party visited all other points of historic interest, including the spot where Lafayette was wounded, now marked by stone tablets, and at 5 o'clock this afternoon they boarded a train at Chadd's Ford and returned to Philadelphia.

THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT.

The following members of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution, the major portion of whom are from Philadelphia, enjoyed the trip: William Wayne, president; Richard N. Cadwalader, vice-president; Ethan Allen Weaver, secretary; Colonel J. Granville Leach, historian; Major J. Edward Carpenter, Judge Pennypacker, William Spohn Baker, and T. Hawson Bradford, M. D., William MacPherson Horner, of the Board of Managers; Joseph W. Anderson, M. D.; Gordon M. Ash, J. Howe Adams, Louis H. Ayres, Richard R. Baker, William H. Barnes, Horace Binder, Charles A. Blakslee, David K. Boyd, Charles S. Bradford, J. Benjamin Brook, Francis M. Brooke, and his guests E. K. Hart and Francis M. Brooke, Jr., H. Jones Brooke, Henry H. Browne, John W. Buckman, Edward Carpenter, Frank Carpenter, James H. Carpenter, E. Herbert Clapp, Randolph Clay, Albert N. Cleaver, Captain Richard S. Collum, U. S. M. C.; John M. Colton, James W. Cookman, Edwin A. Damon, Rev. Benjamin J. Douglass, James M. Duane, Charles Este and son, Edward J. Etting, William Darlington Evans, Maurice

E. Fagan, John B. Filson, Joseph For-
nand, Persifer Frazer, D. Sc.; George
C. Gillespie, Lincoln Godfrey, Jerome B.
Gray, Frank D. Green, Ebenezer W.
Greenough, Charles F. Gummey, Jr.,
Edmund G. Hamersly, Benjamin F.
Hart, Edward Hazlehurst, James M.
Hodge, James W. Holland, M. D.,
Daniel W. Howard, Charles H. Howell,
S. Pemberton Hutchinson, John H. Ir-
win, Bushrod W. James, M. D., Francis
S. Keese, Albert Kelsey, Albert W. Kei-
sey, Henry T. Kent, Peter D. Keyser,
M. D., Alexander Krumbhaar, James L.
Lardner, Benjamin Lee, M. D., Francis
A. Ytte, Joshua L. Lyte, Horace Magee,
John Marston, Caleb J. Milne, Caleb J.
Milne, Jr., David Milne, and his guest
Colonel T. D. Hilby, M. Reed, Minnich,
Judge James T. Mitchell, Robert Mit-
chell, Thomas H. Montgomery, Colonel
Edward DeV. Morrell, Thomas G. Mor-
ton, M. D., Joseph M. Myers, Carroll B.
Nichols, Laurence T. Paul, Tattnell
Paulding and son Elliston Perot, Joseph
S. Perot and his guest, Rev. Joseph S.
Perot, Jr., John J. Finkerton, Louis P.
Posey, M. D., Leland B. Potter, William
F. Potter, George W. Powell, Jr., and
his guest, C. G. Kates, Sutherland M.
Prevost, Eli K. Price, William Brook
Rawle, William T. Robinson, John G.
Rodgers, William S. Rowen, Slater B.
Russell, Captain John W. Shackford,
Rev. Dr. W. W. Silvester, John F. Si-
mons, Charles A. Sims, Edmund Smith,
Walter G. Smith, Robert P. Snowden,
Theodore K. Stubbs, Joseph H. Stein-
metz, Humphrey D. Tate, Henry C.
Terry, Frank E. Townsend, Clarence W.
Taylor, New Jersey Society—Chandler
P. Weinwright, Joseph R. C. Ward, Wil-
liam Wayne, Jr., Grant Weidman, Alan
Wood, Jr., Frederick Wood, Howard
Wood.

From

Intelligencer
Doylestown Pa

Date,

July 10 1895

AMONG THE MUSTY RECORDS

An Old Deed Given in Consideration of
"Natural Affection" and a Marriage
Certificate of the Last Century.

Among the old records recently sent to the INTELLIGENCER is a deed conveying four tracts of land from J. Henry Child to his son Cephas Child for 5 shillings and the "natural affection he had for his son," bearing date 12th of 4th mo., 1716, now in the possession of T. N. Myers, of Plumstead. The first tract mentioned is 500 acres in Plumstead, adjoining land of Widow Musgrove, being part of the tract conveyed to J. Henry Child under the hand and seal of William Penn 18th of 7th mo., 1681. The second tract was 16 acres in the "Liberties of Philadelphia," and the two other pieces of land were lots, one fronting on the Schuylkill river, situated between Walnut and Spruce streets, 20x396 feet, and the other a lot on High street, located between the fifth and sixth streets from the Schuylkill

IED

ver, 25 feet 5 inches by 306 feet.

The original deed to the 500 acres in Plumstead from William Penn now in possession of S. & T. Child, Philadelphia, was published in full in all its peculiarities in the DAILY of March 27th. The 16 acres and two lots in Philadelphia were conveyed to J. Henry Child under the great seal of the Province 20th of 7th mo., 1705. The witnesses to the deed to Cephas Child were James Lee and John Wilson.

Another interesting old document in the possession of T. N. Myers is the marriage certificate of John Kratz and Magdalena Swartzlander, grandparents of the late Mrs. Myers. The certificate reads as follows:

Pennsylvania, Bucks, ss.

This may certify to all whome it may concern that John Kratz and Magdalena Swartzlander, both of Bucks county, were on the 25th day of June, Anno Domini 1799, married before George Wall, one of the justices of the peace in and for the said county of Bucks, and that they took each other for husband and wife in his presence as also in the presence of the other under named witnesses.

GEO. WALL.

JOHN KRATZ,
MAGDALENA SWARTZLANDER.

The witnesses who signed the certificate were Mathias Cowell, Margaret Cowell, Sarah Wall, William Closson, Sarah Closson, Martha Wall, Elizabeth Wall, Ann Wall, Elizabeth Wood, Moses Quinby, Michael F. Goss and Euphemy Wall.

From,

*Democrat
Doylestown Pa*

Date,

July 11. 1895

THE INDIAN LEGEND OF WOLF ROCKS.

How the Romantic Spot Received Its Name.

The following legend was sent to the DEMOCRAT for publication about ten years ago by a gentleman named Leigh, then residing in Lambertville, N. J. The manuscript was mislaid and was only brought to light a few days ago from the recesses of an old drawer. As the Bucks County Historical Society will hold its mid-Summer meeting at the place mentioned in the legend, Wolf Rocks, on Buckingham Mountain, next Tuesday, the story of the origin of its name as told by Mr. Leigh below is both timely and interesting, and, it is understood, has never been related before:

Very many years ago, when I was quite a little child, as the twilight came on we children would cluster about our aged grandfather, then a very old man, and with wrapt attention listen to his stories of "how they did when I was young"—the exploits of his youth and the legends of olden time. The favorite story—the one most frequently asked for and that made the deepest impress upon my mind—was an Indian legend. Though many years have passed since grandfather went to sleep with his fathers, and I have passed from a child to one well stricken with years, I often find my mind reverting to this romance of the simple-minded savages. On memory's wall hangs the picture of my grandfather, with snow white hair and venerable form, seated in the "old armchair" between "grandfather's clock," standing in the corner, and the wide open fire-place. The wonder-stricken faces of the grandchildren, listening with intense eagerness to the words falling from his lips, completes the picture.

Every feature and gesture are remembered. One little fellow puts his hand on grandfather's shoulder, and his pleading face speaks more loudly than his words: "Grandfather, please tell us again the Indian legend?" Several little voices join in the chorus of the request, and with a smile at his youthful tormentors, he begins:

"When I was a little fellow, not larger than this one [placing his hand on my head] it was my greatest pleasure to accompany my brothers when they brought home the cows in the evening. One evening in the late Spring time I remember in particular. A balmy breeze played with the leaves and seemed to whisper lovingly to the flowers. The sun had gone to rest behind a golden canopy, and twilight was fast approaching. While the cows slowly wended their way homeward, we lingered to cull the bright flowers, or listen to the sleepy hum of the bees on their last homeward trip, or stopped to hear the birds chant their evensongs.

"On this evening I was suddenly startled by the exclamation 'Hist!' from my brother. Looking around I saw the tall form of an Indian stalking along in the direction of our house. With fear and trembling we crept towards the house and hid until the Indian left.

"To our many questions father answered that the Indian was known as Oak Leaf, and belonged to the tribe of Lenni Lenape, which had formerly lived in this part of the country; that Oak Leaf seemed very friendly; that he spoke the English language with tolerable fluency—so, at least, as to be easily understood; that he had a tent near the spring at the foot of the mountain, a short distance from our house, and there he wished to stay and visit the hunting grounds of his fathers. After this we often saw him, and, as he was very gentle with us, we soon lost our fear of him, and listened with interest to his stories of the times when the Lenni Lenape had their lodges here.

"One day he stopped beneath a tall and far-spreading chestnut that stood near the house, around which we were seated. His brow was gloomy, his eye sad; his gaze wandered from one object to another. Presently he spoke in words like the following:

"In this beautiful valley of Lahaska was the hunting ground of the powerful tribe of Lenni Lenape. Opposite that pile of rocks was the village of Lase-has-ka (home in the beautiful vale). Here dwelt the children of the forest, and yonder rest the bones of those whose spirits have gone to the Happy Hunting Grounds. In yonder woods they chased the deer, and under this tree the squaws and papooses would come to welcome home the braves from the chase. In that space over there they held their council fires and smoked the pipe of peace and told the legends of the tribe.

"Of all the tribes none was so large or powerful as the Lenni Lenape. In all the world there was no spot so beautiful as this loved valley of Lahaska, "the home of the Good Spirit," the greenest, the sunniest, the most lovely that the great sun ever shone upon. Here the spring was the clearest, the leaves the greenest, the deer most plentiful.

"In all the tribe no one was so tall, so straight, so fleet, so skilful with the arrow, who came from the chase so heavily laden or was so loved, as the young chief, Rushing Water.

"Of all the maidens there was none so fair as White Flower, whose step was like the antelope, whose form was like the lily, whose eyes shone like twinkling stars, whose voice was like the sweetest songs of birds, whose every move was like the graceful, waving willow. There was none who wove so shapely a basket or who could cook the venison so tender and juicy.

"It was to White Flower that Rushing Water ever turned his eye. Returning from the chase he carried the game and laid it at her feet. It was with her he danced at the rejoicings; it was with her he walked beneath the trees. They would stroll up that path and sit on yonder rock in the calm and peaceful light of the moon.

"The lodge was built, lined with the softest furs and decked with the greenest boughs. One short moon and Rushing Water would take White Flower to his lodge as his squaw.

"There was one of the tribe known as Wolf, who had ever tried to be the rival of Rushing Water, in the chase, in the dance, in the sports—always trying, but never succeeding, to surpass Rushing Water. Wolf had wooed the gentle White Flower, but to him she turned a deaf ear. Then Wolf made a vow to the Great Good Spirit that White Flower should never wed Rushing Water.

"Revenge grew from day to day in Wolf's breast. He did not follow the chase; his arrows moulded in their quiver. He sat on the big rock and watched the happy lovers in gloomy silence. His looks were so black and threatening the braves would say: "Wolf is on his rock looking like a thunder cloud." Wolf still sat on the rock the morning White Flower was to go to the lodge of Rushing Water as his squaw.

"The time for the wedding came, but there was no White Flower. She was nowhere among the lodges. Great was the fear when they found her gone. Where was White Flower, they asked of one another. All the braves of the tribe searched the streams, the forests and the mountain; but White Flower could not be found. For many days they searched, but all in vain.

"Rushing Water was heart-broken. He pined over the loss of his lovely bride. In the silent night hours he thought he could hear the voice of White Flower, borne on the winds, calling to him for help. Then he would rush out of his lodge, trembling like a sedge in the meadow. Only the moaning of the wind answered his piteous cries.

"Wolf still sat upon the rock with a baneful smile, watching the fruitless search. But one morning Wolf was missed from his perch. Some braves, with keener sight than others, saw a dark form lying on the rock. They set out to find out what it was. There lay Wolf, raving and tearing his hair, but still alive. As they bore him away in strong arms, Rushing Water heard again the peculiar moaning he had often heard in the night breeze. It seemed to come from the rock. Then they first saw an opening in the rock which had been made deeper and larger by some one. Looking through the opening they saw lying on the floor of the cave, poor White Flower, tightly bound hand and foot, faint and almost dead. With gentle hands they carried her to the village. As they bore her out of the mouth of the cave Wolf tried to snatch her from them, and then throwing up his hands fell backward dead.

"Wolf's dead body was buried among the rocks of the hill, away from the graves of his fathers, and no one of all the Lenni Lenapes west of the mountains remembers the spot.

"It was many, many days before White Flower again became strong; but when the trees were clad in their gayest robes and the fields were a sea of waving golden grain White Flower went to the lodge of Rushing Water as his bride."

This is the Indian legend of Wolf Rocks.

From,

Press
Philadelphia PA

Date,

July 17 1915

NEW LIGHT ON COUNTY HISTORY.

The Bucks Historical Society
Holds a Meeting at
Buckingham.

LONG LOST SEAL UNEARTHED

J. Yerkes Finds the Tree and Vine Design After Baffled Antiquarians Give Up the Search.

Several Papers Read.

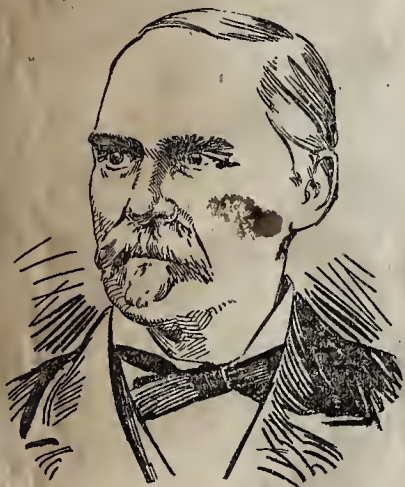
Special Despatch to "The Press."

Doylestown, July 16.—At least a thousand people, many of whom are prominent residents of Philadelphia and Bucks County, assembled at the top of Buckingham Mountain to-day, to participate in the annual meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society.

They climbed from the beautiful Buckingham Valley to the mountain top, a distance of a mile and a half by the mountain road, enjoying a magnificent view of the fertile farm lands of the historic valley hundreds of feet below. The road leading to the spot had been cleared of brush and stones and neat signs posted about the highways indicated the points of interest. Six large tents had been provided for the comfort of the society and its guests. The large pavilion tent, where the essays were read, contained room and seats for 600 people. All these preparations had been made by Colonel Henry D. Paxson, of Philadelphia, whose ancestors have been distinguished in the history of Buckingham.

THE MORNING SESSION.

Morning and afternoon sessions were held. The meeting was called to order by President W. W. H. Davis, Bucks County's chief historian, who without any preliminary remarks introduced



General W. W. H. Davis.

Hugh B. Eastburn, of Doylestown. The latter read an excellent paper on the "Early County School Superintendents of Bucks." Mr. Eastburn is an ex-county superintendent and has always been prominent in educational matters.

His paper was replete with valuable information. One of its most interesting features was a sketch of the late Joseph Fell, father of Supreme Court Justice Fell, of Philadelphia. Of him

Mr. Eastburn said: "Joseph Fell was a pioneer in educational matters in the county. He was a man of broad learning, distinguished for his ability, and became one of the most widely-known men in the eastern section of the State. During his early career as a teacher he crossed Buckingham mountain daily to teach his little school on the south side of the mountain, a trying ordeal when the storms of Winter were abroad. Great results can be traced from the arduous toil of those who labored so incessantly to educate and enlighten the masses in the early history of the county."

An excellent paper by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville, was read. It related to the representatives of Bucks in Congress. Rev. Dr. Turner recited interesting events in lives of the distinguished men who had represented the county from early times down to the present day. This was his second paper on the subject.

Charles Laubach, an eminent geologist, residing in Durham Township, contributed a paper upon the "Pennsylvania Palisades," the strange rock formation on the Delaware, in which he found recorded the history of the life of the globe in indelible characters. His description of the minerals found there and of the strange fossils was extremely entertaining. At the close of Mr. Laubach's paper the society adjourned for dinner, which had been prepared for the



Hon. Harman Yerkes.

guests by the hospitable residents of Buckingham. It was served in a large dining tent, the ladies of the neighborhood waiting upon their guests.

WOLF ROCK'S RECLUSE.

At the afternoon session, which convened at 2 o'clock, Colonel Henry D. Paxson read a paper upon the "Hermit of the Wolf Rocks," whose strange life was passed in a rude cave upon the spot on which the meeting was held. Buckingham's hermit gained world-wide celebrity, the English press years ago publishing long accounts of his life. The name of the noted recluse was Albert Large, a native of Buckingham.

"The death of a beloved mother," said the paper, "and his unrequited passions for a noted beauty in the townships drove him to seek the seclusion of the mountain, where he lived many years, his friends and relatives believing him dead. He was finally discovered by some negroes who passed over the mountain. Great throngs of people came each Sunday to inspect his queer abode. The old hermit appeared before them in Rip Van Winkle apparel, with unkempt locks and beard flowing almost to his knees. Finally all trace of the

old man was lost, and curiosity-seekers carried away every vestige of his house-house implements, even appropriating the rude wood work he had constructed in his primitive abode."

The next paper read was by Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown, curator of the University of Pennsylvania, who had charge of the recent Corwith Expedition to Yucatan. Mr. Mercer's subject was "The Red Man's Bucks County." Mr. Mercer's experience in archaeological research enabled him to write a most interesting and valuable paper. He carried his hearers back to the time when the red man was lord of all he surveyed, and recited a number of facts he had discovered which indicated that the primitive savage possessed more knowledge of geology and science than he had been given credit for. He had his mines and workshops, where rude implements of war and he chase were manufactured. He had cultivated the soil and was probably familiar with coal.

A HUNT FOR THE COUNTY SEAL.

An excellent paper, and one of historic value not to Bucks County alone, but to the State, was read by Hon. Harman Yerkes, president Judge of the Bucks County Courts. When Judge Yerkes, at the request of the society, dipped into history, he made an important discovery of facts that historians have been searching for for many years. Judge Yerkes' subject was the "Original Seal of Bucks County, or the Tree and the Vine." He stated that about a year ago he had

received a telegram from Dr. William H. Egle, of Harrisburg, asking for a copy of the original seal of Bucks County, "a tree and a vine," to be used in designing the decorations of one of the rooms of the enlarged capital building. To send a satisfactory reply to this message, he discovered, would involve most arduous research. Antiquarians had sought for it in vain, and finally Judge Yerkes became deeply interested in the matter himself. In Council meeting held at Philadelphia, "Ye 23d of ye 1st month, 1683," it was ordered that the seal of Philadelphia be the anchor, of Bucks a tree and vine, and of Chester a plow. It appeared that all these county seals were in use with the exception of that of Bucks, of which there was doubt.

In his efforts to discover the tree and vine of Bucks, Judge Yerkes encountered many difficulties. He searched Davis' history, and interviewed Historian William J. Buck. The latter had expressed his doubt as to whether such a seal had ever been used for official purposes. Dr. Egle concurred in the general opinion.

At last, however, after a long and tedious examination of the files in the county officers at Doylestown, Judge Yerkes was able to appear before the Bucks County Historical Society, and remove all doubts as to the existence of the tree and vine seal, though it might, he said, upset certain theories as to the composition of the great seal of the Commonwealth. The seal of the tree and vine, he proved, had been actually made and used as the county seal continuously until after the outbreak of the Revolution, though eminent antiquarians had not been able to find it. Judge Yerkes discovered a number of the seals clearly defined.

STATE SEAL AFFECTED.

Judge Yerkes thinks that the theory that the great seal of the Commonwealth is a composite production of the provincial seals of the three original counties cannot be sustained so far as Bucks County is concerned, since the sheaves of wheat supposed to have been upon her seal were never so used. In closing the paper Judge Yerkes made the suggestion that the original seal be pre-

served by having it reproduced in enlarged and suitable form to be placed somewhere about the court house.

The seal is of the size of a silver half-dollar, with the escutcheon or shield of the Penn family as its central figure. The background is white, with a black band and three plates thereon, above which is a half moon, probably the distinguishing mark of the proprietor's branch of the family. Surmounting the shield is a low, broad tree, having a rather heavy trunk, with thickly clustered branches similar to the apple or chestnut tree. Extending from the base of the tree and around the shield is a distinctly defined vine, representing the old-fashioned trumpet vine, so common about the old homes of Bucks. Within a double dotted line on the outer circle is the inscription "William Penn, Proprietor and Governor, Bucks." The above spelling of the word proprietor is followed in other old seals.

The meeting was regarded as one of the most successful and entertaining ever held by the society.

From, *Republican*

Doylestown Pa

Date, *July 17, 1895*

HISTORIC TREASURES

Unearthed At the Annual Meeting
of the Historical Society.

THE GUESTS OF COLONEL PAXSON.

A Large Assemblage On Buckingham
Mountain—Papers Read On County His-
tory—Judge Yerkes Tells Of An Original
Discovery Of The Old County Seal.

Nearly a thousand people enjoyed the midsummer and annual meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society which was held on Buckingham Mountain on Tuesday afternoon. It was a splendid place for the meeting, but in order that the Society and its guests might reach it easily lots of hard work had to be done in the way of clearing out roads, removing brush, stones, timber, etc. All this was managed by Colonel Henry D. Paxson, who was highly complimented upon the efficient manner in which it was done.

He had provided every comfort for the Society and its guests. Six tents had been erected in the event of storm, one of them a large pavilion seats provided with a speaker's stand and tents for six hundred people. Hacks were at the station to meet guests arriving by train.

The ladies of Buckingham provided an

cellent repast for their guests, which was served between the morning and afternoon session.

The meeting was one of the most successful in the history of the Society. In addition to listening to excellent essays the people enjoyed the magnificent view from the mountain tops, and inspected the picturesque "Wolf Rocks," where neat signs, erected by Colonel Paxson, marked the points of interest.

THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

Hugh B. Eastburn, Esq., of Doylestown, ex-county superintendent of the Bucks county schools, read an excellent paper on "The Early County Superintendency." He recited the trials of the men interested in the early history of education in the State. The educational work of the State was then conducted in a haphazard method. There was a failure to uplift the great body of the people to the intellectual and moral plane on which they should stand.

After describing the character of the early schools Mr. Eastburn switched upon the pioneers in the county's educational work. One of the most interesting sketches related to Joseph Fell, father of Judge Fell, of Philadelphia. He was the first superintendent in the county, elected in 1854. He was a splendid teacher and an efficient superintendent. He had the happy faculty of arousing the interest of his pupils.

Joseph Fell's experience and success as a teacher and his breadth of view as a school officer led him to become, very early in his term, a potent factor in conventions and organizations looking towards the reconstruction of our school system. He had encountered many difficulties and suffered considerable privation as a teacher, walking over Buckingham Mountain daily to teach a school on the south side of the mountain, his home being on the north side.

BUCKS COUNTY IN CONGRESS.

Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville, read a paper relating to the Representatives of Bucks county in Congress. Rev. Dr. Turner gave interesting sketches of the more prominent members of Congress who had represented their county many years ago, ending with a complete list from the earliest times down to the present.

HISTORY IN ROCKS.

Charles Laubach, Esq., of Durham, contributed a very interesting paper on the "Pennsylvania Palisades," describing the formation of that peculiar rock formation along the Delaware on the Bucks county side.

ROMANCE IN HISTORY.

One of the most interesting papers read was that of Colonel Henry D. Paxson, his subject being "The Hermit of the Wolf Rocks." Colonel Paxson prefaced his picturesque story of the hermit with a charming historical sketch of the Buckingham Valley, the home of his ancestors.

He drew a striking portrait of Albert Large, the strange old man who, disappointed in love and broken with grief over the death of his mother, had taken up his abode in the rude cavern on the mountain, where he lived for years.

Colonel Paxson's valuable paper will be published in full in THE REPUBLICAN hereafter.

Henry C. Mercer, Esq., entertained the audience with one of his best productions upon the Red Man in Bucks county, relating incidents of the most interesting character connected with his archaeological research.

JUDGE YERKES' PAPER.

An excellent paper, and one of historic value not to Bucks county alone, but to the State, was read by Hon. Harman Yerkes, President Judge of the Bucks county courts. When Judge Yerkes, at the request of the Society, dipped into history, he made an important discovery of facts that historians have been searching for for many years.

Judge Yerkes' subject was the "Original Seal of Bucks County, or the Tree and the Vine." He stated that about a year ago he had received a telegram from Dr. William H. Egle, of Harrisburg, asking for a copy of the original seal of Bucks county, "a tree and a vine," to be used in designing the decorations of one of the rooms of the enlarged Capitol building. To send a satisfactory reply to this message, he discovered, would involve most arduous research. Antiquarians had sought for it in vain, and finally Judge Yerkes became deeply interested in the matter himself.

The use of seals in Pennsylvania for the attestation of official and other documents dates back to the foundation of the colony. Charles II conferred the right upon William Penn to use his arms on the proprietary seals, and hence we find them forming the basis or central figure of all the colonial seals. The writer then gave an exceedingly interesting account of the various seals used, and methods of branding and marking cattle.

Separate seals were provided for each county in Penn's province. In council meeting held at Philadelphia, "Ye 23rd of ye 1st month, 1683," it was ordered that the seal of Philadelphia be the anchor, of Bucks a tree and vine, of Chester a plow, of New Castle a castle, of Kent three ears of Indian corn and of Sussex one wheat sheaf. It was made a penalty to counterfeit seals. It appeared that all these county seals were in use with the exception of Bucks, of which there was doubt. In his efforts to discover the tree and vine of Bucks Judge Yerkes encountered many difficulties and met with much discouragement.

He searched Davis' history, and interviewed Historian William J. Buck. The latter had expressed his doubt as to whether

such a seal had ever been used for official purposes. He had failed to find it anywhere even among the archives at Harrisburg. Eugene Zeiber, of Philadelphia, author of a work on heraldry in America, had the same experience. Dr. Egle concurred in the general opinion that the seal had never been used. Judge Yerkes determined, however, to continue the search.

From 1683, when the "tree and vine" were declared to be the emblem of Bucks county, nothing further than the Act of 1705 appears upon the Statute books down to the Revolution, concerning the seal.

At last, however, after a long and tedious examination of the files in the county offices, at Doylestown, Judge Yerkes was able to appear before the Bucks County Historical Society, on Tuesday, and remove all doubts as to the existence of the tree and vine seal, though it might, he said, upset certain theories as to the Composition of the great seal of the Commonwealth.

The seal of the tree and vine, he proved, had been actually made and used as the county seal continuously until after the outbreak of the Revolution, though eminent antiquarians had not been able to find it. Judge Yerkes discovered a number of the seals clearly defined. An impression in wax of the seal attached by Jeremiah Langhorne to a writ in partition between Thomas Stackhouse and Robert Cobbett, issued the

15th day of December, in the second year of George II, (1729) is as fresh and distinct as if made yesterday. The result of Judge Yerkes' labor has been, therefore, to establish beyond all question the fact that the original seal of the tree and vine was used by Bucks from 1683 to the Revolution, almost 100 years.

After seeing the seals that had been unearthed by Judge Yerkes, Doctor Egle and Mr. Zieber wrote to him, stating that, in their opinion, it was the long sought for seal.

Judge Yerkes thinks that the theory that the great seal of the Commonwealth is a composite production of the provincial seals of the three original counties cannot be sustained so far as Bucks county is concerned, since the sheaves of wheat supposed to have been upon the seal were never so used. Her modesty may have permitted her to be thrust into the back ground, while the emblems of other counties were used to form the great seal. This modesty would be characteristic of the retiring disposition of her people, a marked trait to this day.

In the light of the facts discovered by Judge Yerkes it also appears that the seal printed in Davis' History of Bucks County was not the legally authorized seal of the county at any time.

In closing his paper Judge Yerkes made the valuable suggestion that the original seal be preserved by having it reproduced in enlarged and suitable form to be placed somewhere about the court house.

The seal is of size of a silver half dollar, with the escutcheon or shield of the Penn family as its central figure. The background is white, with a black band and three plates thereon, above which is a half moon, probably the distinguishing mark of the proprietor's branch of the family. Surmounting the shield is a low, broad tree, having a rather heavy trunk, with thickly clustered branches similar to the apple or chestnut tree. Extending from the base of the tree, and around the shield, is a distinctly defined vine, representing the old fashioned trumpet vine, so common about the old homes of Bucks. Within a double dotted line on the outer circle, is the inscription "WILLIAM PENN, PROPRIATOR AND GOVERNOR, BUCKS." The above spelling of the word Proprietor is followed in other old seals, namely, those of Kent and New Castle. In technical heraldry the seal is described as follows: Argent on a fesse sable, 3 plates, a crescent for difference. Above the shield (in position of a crest) a fruit tree proper. In exergue, the legend "WILLIAM PENN, PROPRIATOR AND GOVERNOR, BUCKS."

General Davis, President of the Society, had prepared a paper an excellent paper on "Buckingham, the Empire Township," which he announced would be published, as it was too late to read it when his turn arrived.

"BUCKINGHAM, THE EMPIRE TOWNSHIP."

His paper contained a vast amount of historical information. He said that the central location of Buckingham, its large area, 18,488 acres, its productive soil, high cultivation, beautiful rural scenery and agricultural wealth, rich deposits of limestone, its distinguished sons, and the general intelligence of the people entitle it to be called the "Empire township" of the county.

Buckingham was among the earliest townships settled. The stream of immigration, that brought settlers into the woods of Wrightstown, carried them up to the "Great Mountain," called "Lahaskekee" by the Indians, whence they spread over Bucking-

ham and Solebury, originally one township.

The name is English. We have "Bushing" from becen, the beech tree; then "Becen-ham;" now "Bushingam," the village among the beeches, and, lastly, "Buckingham." Bristol was originally called "Buckingham," but the name was not given to this township until after that of Bristol had been changed. It was organized shortly after 1700, and called "New Buckingham" in 1706.

It is impossible to name the first white settler in Buckingham, or the time of his arrival, but it must have been shortly after John Chapman located in the woods of Wrightstown. This was in 1684. The honor is claimed for Amor Preston, who tradition says, was a tailor at Wiccaco, Philadelphia county. The early settlers of Buckingham were mostly Friends, well educated and intelligent.

The names of some of the first purchasers have long since disappeared from both township and county records; among them are those of Nathaniel Bromley, 2,292 acres; Thomas Mayleigh, 1,622; John Reynolds, 984; Edward West, 980; Widow Musgreave, 980, and Richard Lunday, 1,025. These holdings foot up 7,883 acres, very nearly one-half the present area of the township. Before Solebury was cut off, the entire area was 33,000 acres. This was probably prior to 1703.

Buckingham Friends held their first Monthly Meeting in 1732. Their meeting house was destroyed by fire in 1768, and the present fine old-fashioned building, 40x70 feet, was erected the same season. The present house was used as an hospital while the Continental army occupied the west bank of the Delaware, in December 1776, and several soldiers were buried where the turnpike crosses the hill, and their remains were uncovered when the pike was made.

The Smith family did their full share in peopling this empire township and from which have descended a numerous posterity. The Byes were in the township prior to the close of the century. The Paxsons were among the earliest settlers in Buckingham, and in the county.

One of the most distinguished residents of Buckingham in the past century was Dr. John Wilson. The Watsons came into Bucks county from Cumberland, England, in the eighteenth century, many of them living in Buckingham.

Among others who settled in Buckingham about this period, were Mathew Hughes, several years a member of Assembly, and commissioned a justice of the peace in 1738; Joseph Fell, the Lintons, John Hill, Ephraim Fenton, Isaac Pennington, William Pickering, the Carvers, probably descended from William, who settled in Byberry, in 1682, of which Elias Carver, of Doylestown, is descended, and many others. Among the earlier settlers in Buckingham, but not classed among the earliest were the Simpsons.

Buckingham is entitled to special honor for her activity in the cause of education. In this work she stands in the front rank. The ordinary country schools were opened soon after its settlement and the rudiments taught to them.

MORE MEMBERS ENROLLED.

During the sessions several business matters were transacted by the Society. In relation to Judge Yerkes' suggestions regarding the preservation of the original county seal the following resolution was passed:

Resolved. That a committee of five be appointed who shall take steps to secure, if

possible, the proper recognition of Bucks county's original seal in the Great Seal of Pennsylvania.

The Committee on Accounts, John S. Williams and Dr. J. B. Walters, audited the accounts and found the balance in Treasurer Paschall's hands to be \$418.51.

The President appointed Judge Harman Yerkes, John S. Williams, Dr. J. P. Walter, the Rev. D. K. Turner and Thomas C. Knowles a committee to revise the by-laws.

The following persons were elected to membership: Mrs. William C. Newell, Miss Mary L. DuBois, Murray E. Pool, Edward B. Darlington, Mrs. E. Wesley Keeler, Robert H. Lyman, George W. Rogers, Walter Darlington, Mrs. George P. Brock, Mrs. John Yardley, Mrs. John L. DuBois, Mrs. Harman Yerkes, Mrs. Alfred Paschall, Amanda B. Buckman, William Jenks Fell, Henry M. Twining, Irving P. Wanger, G. W. Rubincam, E. Watson Fell, Henry A. James, Edward H. Buckman, Henry P. Ely and Samuel T. Buckman.

From, *Intelligencer*
Doylestown Pa
 Date, *July 18. 1895*

THE EMPIRE TOWNSHIP.

What Descendants of Buckingham Have Done.

A Paper Prepared by General W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, for the Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, Held at Wolf Rocks, Buckingham, June 16th, 1895.

Three-quarters of a century ago, Samuel Johnson, a poet of this beautiful valley, sang its praises in verse, of which I give a single stanza:

"From the brow of Lahaseka, wide to the west,
 The eye sweetly rests on the landscape below;
 'Tis blooming as Eden, when Eden was blest,
 As the Sun lights its charms with his evening glow."

We stand about where the poet is supposed to have stood when he cast his horoscope on the charming surroundings. The "vale of Lahaseka" hath lost none of its charms; the eye, as then, "sweetly rests on the landscape below;" and her "lovely streamlets" flow on in their "silvery pride" from the hills on the west.

The central location of Buckingham, its large area, 18,488 acres, its productive soil, high cultivation, beautiful rural scenery and agricultural wealth, rich deposits of limestone, its distinguished sons, and the general intelligence of the people, entitle it

to be called the "Empire township" of the county.

Buckingham was among the earliest townships settled. The stream of immigration, that brought settlers into the woods of Wrightstown, carried them up to the "Great Mountain," called "Lahaske-kee" by the Indians, whence they spread over Buckingham and Solebury, originally one township. The name is English. We have "Bushing" from *becen*, the beech tree; then "Becen-ham;" now "Bushingham," the village among the beeches, and, lastly, "Buckingham." Bristol was originally called "Buckingham," but the name was not given to this township until after that of Bristol had been changed. It was organized shortly after 1700, and called "New Buckingham" in 1706.

The earliest survey was that by Cutler, 1703, showing parts of Buckingham and Solebury, with the Street road dividing them. This was probably laid out by Phineas Pemberton when county surveyor, about 1700. A subsequent survey was recorded September 15, 1722, which I seen, but I do not know when the lines were run. It begins at the northwest corner of the township and runs southwest by a line of marked trees, 1,493 perches, and the last line was up the Street road to the place of beginning 2184 perches. There are substantially the present boundaries of Buckingham. The earliest map of the township I have seen was drawn in 1726, giving its entire area from the Solebury line to the west end of the mountain. The York and Durham roads are marked on it. At that time there were twenty landowners, and the names are all given on this map but one. Among them are the well-known names of Fenton, Hough, Preston, Fell, Phillips, Holcomb, Gilbert, Large, Kinsey and Bye. The Paxsons, Watsons, and others, whose descendants now people the township, were then residents, but the map does not contain their names.

It is impossible to name the first white settler in Buckingham, or the time of his arrival, but it must have been shortly after John Chapman located in the woods of Wrightstown. This was in 1681. The honor is claimed for Amor Preston, who tradition says, was a tailor at Wicaco, Philadelphia county; that when his cabin was burned, the Indians, living about the Great Mountain, invited him to move up to their village, possibly to make fashionable garments for the "four hundred." His wife was the daughter of Swedish parents living on the Delaware above the mouth of Neshaminy. The Preston family produced some prominent men. Paul Preston was a fine mathematician and linguist, and the friend and associate of Franklin. A friend of Franklin, about to go to Court at Newtown, asked for a letter to Preston. This the philosopher declined to give, saying, "You will know him easily enough, as he is the tallest man, the homeliest-looking man and the most sensible man you will meet at Newtown."

The early settlers of Buckingham were mostly Friends, well educated and intelligent, with a robust faith pleasant to contemplate, some of them walking down to Falls to attend meeting before getting permission to have one of their own. The pioneers of Buckingham had a hard life, and imagination at the present day falls short of the reality. Until a crop was raised flour was fetched from Falls and Middletown, over 20 miles, and grain was taken to Gwin's mill on the Pennypack, below Hatboro, to be ground down to 1707. This was to supply Buckingham and Solebury. It was not so convenient then as now for the fair daughters of Buckingham to purchase their Spring bonnets, as their was no store north of Bristol, and it is doubtful if that kept a very good assortment; nor could they so quickly send the boy to mill for flour to bake sponge cake and make cream puffs on the eve of an entertainment, say an evening reception, so popular now.

The names of some of the first purchasers have long since disappeared from both township and county records; among them are those of Nathaniel Bromley, 2,292 acres;

Thomas Mayleigh, 1,622; John Reynolds, 944; Edward West, 989; Widow Musgreave, 984, and Richard Lunday, 1,025. These holdings foot up 7,883 acres, very nearly one half the present area of the township. Before Solebury was cut off, the entire area was 33,000 acres. This was probably prior to 1703.

A distinguishing feature in the settlement of Bucks county with all denominations was their care in erecting houses for religious worship and establishing schools. As the Friends were the first to come they led off in this work. The township had no constituted meeting prior to 1700, when the quarterly granted leave to the Buckingham Friends to hold a meeting for worship. They first met at the house of William Cooper, and in turn at John Gillingham's, James Streater's, and Nathaniel Bye's. In 1705 Streater conveyed ten acres, in trust, to build a meeting house on and for a burying ground with the privilege of roads to get to it. On the west side of the road, that wound up the hill and near the line of the graveyard, a small log meeting house was erected. In June of that year Buckingham Friends notified Falls Meeting they intended to build a meeting house, and asked their advice. Consent was given, and Stephen Wilson and John Watson were appointed to collect money for the building fund. It was begun that year, but not finished until 1708.

Upon the establishment of a Monthly Meeting, in 1721, a frame house was erected a little further up the hill; and, ten years later, a stone meeting house, with a stone addition one story high for the use of women, was built still higher up the slope. In this Buckingham Friends held their first Monthly Meeting in 1732. It was destroyed by fire in 1768, and the present fine old-fashioned building, 40x70 feet, was erected the same season, the meetings, in the meantime, being held at the dwelling of Benjamin Williams. The mason work and plastering were done by Mathias Hutchinson, of Solebury, and the carpenter work by Edward Good, of Plumstead. The present house was used as an hospital while the Continental army occupied the west bank of the Delaware, in December, 1776, and several soldiers were buried where the turnpike crosses the hill, and their remains were uncovered when the pike was made. It is said the soldiers, on meeting days, put one-half the house in order for Friends, and that many of them attended worship. During the war Monthly Meeting was held out of the house but once, February 1, 1777, in Thomas Ellicot's smithshop.

A word of some of the individual settlers, who erected their altars and their hearthstones in the woods of Buckingham, will not be out of place, albeit.

"Each in his narrow cell forever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

The Smith family did their full share in peopling this empire township and from which have descended a numerous posterity. At one time there were ten Robert Smiths in the same neighborhood. A Robert Smith, second son of his father who died on the passage, was the first of the family to arrive, coming in his minority, prior to 1699. He made his way well in life; marrying in 1719, and dying in 1745 the owner of 700 acres in Buckingham, Makefield and Wrightstown. He had six sons, and John Watson, the surveyor, said they were the six best penmen he ever met in one family. About this time came William Smith, with his son Thomas, who took up 600 acres adjoining Robert. They were not related. Joseph Smith, who introduced the use of anthracite coal into the county, and Charles Smith, of Pineville, the first to burn lime with hard coal, were descendants of Robert Smith the elder. A Robert Smith was a pioneer in burning lime, having burned a kiln as early as 1785. The first kiln was probably burned by Samuel Smith, grandfather of the late Josiah B. of New-

town, as early as 1761. Thomas Smith, the elder, of Buckingham, planted the seed that grew the tree that bore the first cider apple in America, on the farm were the first Robert Smith settled. Samuel Smith, a captain in the Continental Army, was a native of this township, as was his son Andrew J. Smith, a Major General in the late war. The father married a daughter of John Wilkinson, and I have heard my father say that his father helped Captain Smith steal the bride-elect away from the parental roof. More than a hundred years ago the Smith family of Buckingham established a valuable industrial establishment in Tinicum township, on the Delaware, for the manufacture of plows and mould boards, and was run by water. The plant was called "Smith-town," and the works successfully carried on for half a century. Joseph Smith, of Buckingham, made the pattern for the first iron mould board about a hundred years ago on the farm now owned and occupied by Heston J. Smith, great grandson of the Joseph that made the plow. It was cast at Charles Newbold's foundry below Camden, N. J. It was patented in 1800.

Thomas Canby, son of Benjamin, of Yorkshire, born about 1667, came to Pennsylvania in 1683, as an indentured apprentice to Henry Baker. He settled in Buckingham about 1690, and married Sarah Garis in 1693. He was married three times, and the father of seventeen children. He first bought part of the Lundy tract; sold this to Baker and then bought part of the Scarborough tract in Solebury, including the Stavely farm. He subsequently purchased Heath's mill on the Great Spring Creek, near New Hope, where he died in 1742. His descendants are numerous, and included General Canby, U. S. A., who was killed by the Indians in California some twenty years ago. Among the families which have descended in parts from this ancestry are the Lacey's, Hamptons, Elys, Smiths, Staplers, Gillinghams, Paxsons, Wilsons, Eastburns, Watsons, Pickering and Megills.

William Cooper, mentioned in "Bessie's sufferings" among those fined and otherwise punished for non-conformity, was an early settler. He was born in Yorkshire in 1649; came to Pennsylvania in 1699, locating here in the same year. He was twice married, the first time about 1672, three years before joining the Friends. Three children by the first wife and one by the second came to America with him. The name is written *Cowper* in the parish record, in England and in the deed for 500 acres purchased of Christopher Atkinson. It was at his home Friends first held meetings in Buckingham. William Cooper died in 1709 at the age of 60. This family is not identical with that of Cooper, the novelist; but as the latter was the grandson of Hannah Hibbs, of Solebury, he was a descendant of Bucks county ancestry in the female line.

The Byes were in the township prior to the close of the century. In 1699 Thomas Bye purchased 600 acres of Edward Crews, Nathaniel Park and others, extending down to the mountain. Crews and Park were probably never residents of the township, the land they conveyed to Bye being granted them in 1681, the year before Penn left England, and joined the tracts of Lundy and Streater. Charity Bye, daughter of Hezekiah and Sarah Bye, born in 1780, was the mother of William F. Johnson, Governor of Pennsylvania, 1850-51. The Bye tract was laid out by John Cutler, October 6, 1701. He was an early settler in Middletown and made a resurvey of the county in 1702-3; came from Yorkshire in 1685; married a daughter of Cuthbert Hayhurst, of Northampton, and died in 1720.

The Paxsons were among the earliest settlers in Buckingham, and in the county. William Paxson was in Middletown in 1682, and a landowner in 1684, locating 500 acres on the Neshaminy above Hulmeville. He lost his wife, two sons and a brother on the voyage, and, two years after his arrival, married the widow of William Plumley, of Northampton. William Paxson became a man of influence in the community, and represented the county in the

Assembly. His son Henry removed to Solebury in 1704; was in the Assembly in 1705-7, and, subsequently, came to Buckingham. The late Thomas Paxson was fifth in descent from Henry, through Jacob, his fourth son, and Sarah Shaw, of Plumstead, his second wife, whom he married in 1777. But two of Jacob Paxson's large family of children became residents of Bucks, Thomas who married a grand-daughter of William Johnson, and Mary, who became the wife of William H. Johnson, deceased; Wm. Johnson was born in Ireland and received a good education; came to Pennsylvania after his majority and settled for a time in Bucks county; married Ann Potts, removed to South Carolina where he died at the age of thirty-five. His sons were cultivated men, Thomas becoming an eminent lawyer, and dying at New Hope, in 1833. Samuel, the youngest son, spent his life in Buckingham, married Martha Hutchinson and died in 1843. Thomas Paxson was the father of ex-Chief Justice Edward M. Paxson, of the State Supreme Court, and of Samuel Johnson Paxson, for many years proprietor and editor of the DOYLESTOWN DEMOCRAT. The latter was a man of "infinite jest." Upon the election of Mr. Buchanan, to the presidency, he announced the fact in his paper in great head lines, thus: "*A Bachelor in the White House and all the Old Maids Tickled to Death.*" It was republished in the London Times, and produced a broad smile wherever read.

The Watsons came into Bucks county from Cumberland, England, with the eighteenth century; Thomas Watson, with his wife and sons Thomas and John, locating in Bristol township at a place called "Honey Hill," about 1701. As his meeting certificate bore, date 7th mo. 23d, they probably landed that fall. He removed to Buckingham in 1704, and settled on 400 acres he bought of one Rosill, lying on the southeast side of the York road; but he was so careful of the rights of the Indians he refused to have the tract surveyed without their consent. A man of intelligence, he turned his attention to medicine, and, there being no physician within several miles, he grew into a large practice before his death, about 1731-32. He was probably the earliest physician in the township. His son John, of greater medical knowledge, followed his father's profession, met with success and died in 1760. He was sixteen years in the Assembly. John, the grandson of Thomas, named after his father, and born about 1720, was one of the most prominent men of the Province. He was a distinguished mathematician and surveyor, and noted for his elegant penmanship. He assisted to run the line between Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, known, in later days, as "Mason and Dixon's Line," and was Secretary to Governor Morris at the Indian treaty at Easton, 1756. He was both a scholar and poet. Thomas Penn wished him to accept the office of Surveyor General in 1760, which he declined. He died in 1761. The late Judge Richard Watson was descended from this ancestry.

Among others who settled in Buckingham about this period, were Mathew Hughes, several years a member of Assembly, and commissioned a justice of the peace in 1738; Joseph Fell, the Lintons, John Hill, Ephraim Fenton, Isaac Pennington, William Pickering, the Carvers, probably descended from William, who settled in Byberry, in 1682, of whom Elias Carver, Esq., of Doylestown, is descended, and many others I could name, would time permit.

Of the Fells, Joseph, son of John and Margaret, of Longlands, County Cumberland, England, born in 1668, was the first comer. He arrived in 1705 with his wife and two children. Landing at the mouth of the Potomac they made their way to Bristol by land and water; thence to Upper Makefield, where they lived a few months, and removed to Buckingham in 1706, where he died. He remarried in 1709. He was the father of eleven children, and they, and his thirty-five grandchildren, intermarried, among others, with the families of Scar-

borough, Kinsey, Watson, Haines, Kirk, Church and Heston. He left a farm at his death to his son Joseph, in Upper Makefield, whither he removed. Here his son, who became Dr. David Fell, father of Joseph and grandfather of Judge Fell, of Buckingham, was born. He read medicine with Dr. Isaac Chapman, of Wrightstown, and was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, his certificate, signed by Dr. Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, bearing date of February 25, 1801.

It is claimed that Jesse Fell, the son of Thomas and Jane, born in Buckingham in 1751, was the first person to make a successful experiment of burning anthracite coal in an open grate. This was at Wilkesbarre, whither he removed about 1790, and where he died in 1830. He was a prominent citizen of Luzerne, and served one term as Associate Judge.

THE EMPIRE TOWNSHIP.

What Descendants of Buckingham Have Done.

A Paper Prepared by General W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, for the Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, Held at Wolf Rocks, Buckingham, June 16th, 1895.

Concluded from yesterday.

The Idens were long in the county before coming to Buckingham. A Randall Iden was married about 1690, and his daughter Dorothy, in 1700. A second Randall Iden, probably a son of the former, lived in Bristol township in 1724, and was married to Margaret Greenfield, of "Middle township," the present Middletown. A third Randall Iden, grandfather of the late James C. Iden, of Buckingham, and son of Jacob, of Rockhill, married a daughter of Samuel Foulke, of Richland, in 1772, and on the certificate are the names of twelve Foulkes and thirteen Robertses, witnesses that the marriage was "orderly done."

Among others, who purchased land in the township prior to 1700, but not all settlers, were James Streator and Richard Parsons, each 500 acres. In 1724 Streator styled himself "practitioner in physic," but, as he was a grocer in 1683, he must have studied the healing art subsequently. The farm of the late Joseph Fell is part of the Streator tract. In 1683 a warrant, covering several thousand acres, was issued to Thomas Hudson for land in this and other townships; and, in 1688, 1,000 acres were confirmed to Richard Lundy. In 1687, 980 acres were surveyed to Edward West, and 984 to John Reynolds, lying on both sides of the mountain on the road from Pineville to Claytown. These two tracts have some historic interest, and gave rise to numerous lawsuits. The original purchasers never appearing, the land was settled upon by others without a color of title, the Proprietaries taking bonds from the tenants against waste. In 1781 suits were commenced for the possession of these lands and continued for more than half a century, the late Thomas Ross being one of the counsel. The absence of Reynolds was accounted for by his alleged loss at sea, on his return to England, but that of West was never explained.

Among the earlier settlers in Buckingham, but not classed among the earliest, were the Simpsons. There were probably two families of this name. Those best remembered here are the descendants of William Simpson, from the North of Ireland, born about 1732 and came here between 1748

and 1750, and bought 100 acres of John Penn in 1766. He married Nancy Hines, of New Britain, and their daughter Ann was the mother of the late General John Davis, of Davisville. John Simpson, son of William, was the father of the late Mrs. Ann Jamison. William Simpson was a soldier of the Revolution, and, on one occasion, while on a visit home, he escaped the search of a party of Tories by having an empty hog's-head turned over him in the cellar. A James Simpson was living in Buckingham prior to the William mentioned above, where his son John was born in 1744. He settled on the Susquehanna, above Fort Hunter, in the present Dauphin county, in 1769, and married a daughter of Captain James Marraw, in whose Company he served in the Revolution. He was the grandfather of Hon. J. Simpson Africa, late Secretary of Internal Affairs. A branch of this family emigrated to South Carolina and Virginia. General Grant was a descendant of our Bucks county Simpsons. A number of other families of the township deserve mention, but I have neither time nor space to notice them.

One of the most distinguished residents of Buckingham in the past century was Dr. John Wilson. He was born in Southampton in 1768; graduated at Dickinson college in 1792; taught a classical school, of which Samuel D. Ingham, Jackson's Secretary of the Treasury, was a pupil; graduated in medicine, in 1796, from the University of Pennsylvania, one of the first from Bucks county. He settled in practice at Elm Grove, where he died in 1835. He possessed a rare combination of desirable qualities; was accomplished, handsome and courtly, and his house the seat of refined and generous hospitality. He was twice married, the second wife being Mary Fell, widow of William Fell, and both wives were women of elegant manners and high intelligence. The late Lewis S. Coryell once remarked of him: "Dr. Wilson knew more from a potato hill up, than any other man I ever knew." The late Dr. Cernea read medicine with Dr. Wilson, and became a distinguished hotanist. His life was full of romance.

Buckingham is entitled to special honor for her activity in the cause of education. In this work she stands in the front rank. The ordinary country schools were opened soon after its settlement and the rudiments taught in them. Tradition tells us that Thomas Watson opened a school for Indians prior to 1730, but his philanthropic work was closed by the small pox. In 1754, Adam Harker left a legacy of £40 to the township toward maintaining a free school under charge of the meeting; and, in 1789, Thomas Smith leased a lot for thirty years, at the annual rent of "one pepper corn," on condition that a school house be erected within a year. This was done, and subsequently known as the "Red school house." It stood on the Street Road on the northwest bank of Hyrl's Run. A new building, erected on the opposite side of the creek, is now used as a dwelling. My father received part of his early education in that little school house.

The three most noted schools in the township in the past century were "Tyro Hall," the "Friends' School" and the Hugheesian Free School." Tyro Hall was built about 1789 on a subscription of £99 contributed by thirty-two persons, and the lot was given in trust, by David Gilbert, to the care of three trustees, elected by the contributors. The last board were John C. Shepherd, Jesse Haney and Joseph Beans, in 1854. The house stood on the roadside just above Greenville, and one on the same site is now used as a dwelling, but whether the original, or built subsequently, is not clearly determined.

The first action toward establishing "Buckingham's Friends' School" was taken in February, 1792, by the Monthly Meeting appointing a committee to raise means. In this way £739 were obtained to which the Harker legacy was added, £245, and others, Joseph Walker, Jonathan Ingham and Thomas Watson. The school building was erected in 1794, and is still

standing but no longer used for school purposes. When the Friends separated the school fund was divided. The Hugheesian School was founded on a legacy left by Amos Austin Hughes at his death, in 1811, the real and personal property amounting to \$21,450. It was left to educate the poor children of the township, and such others as stood in need, "forever." If necessary they were to be clothed and fed. A charter was obtained in 1812, and the building erected; and the school maintained for many years; but, within recent years, the school was discontinued and the money turned over to the township school fund. Mr. Hughes, who was an invalid from his youth, was a quiet, patient sufferer, and passed most of his time in reading and meditation.

Among the teachers at one or another of these schools, and known to the present generation, were William H. Johnson and Joseph Fell, both Superintendents of the public schools of the county; Joseph Price, and Albert Smith who served in the Congress of the United States. Several of the scholars reached prominent places in the world's affairs: Justices Paxson and Fell of the State Supreme Court, Judge Watson, president of our County Courts, and his brother, a Judge in Kansas, Gen. A. J. Smith, U. S. A.; J. Gillingham Fell, Dr. Janney, one of the most prominent physicians of Philadelphia, late Coroner and now in charge of the medical department of Girard College, and Jefferson Baker and Amos Bonsall, members of Dr. Kane's Arctic expedition. Baker died in the Polar region and Bonsall, on his return, wrote a book on the expedition.

Buckingham had another school equally noted in its day, that should not be overlooked. Martha Hampton's Boarding and Day School for Girls at Greenville on the York Road. It was kept up for a number of years, and there many of the matrons of the township received their education. Tradition tells us the boys of the period were anxious to enjoy the advantages of Miss Hampton's seminary, and possibly the society of the girls as well, and a few of the very nicest boys, prime favorites, were admitted to the school, of which Edward M. Paxson is said to have been one. No youth could have a better endorsement to begin life on, and to it may be attributed his success. Of the three early public libraries in the county, that of Buckingham was established second, 1795, having been preceded by Newtown, in 1763, and followed by Falls, in 1800. Of the three, Newtown and Falls are still maintained, that of Buckingham having been wound up forty years ago.

I have already alluded to the sons of Buckingham who have made their mark in industrial pursuits. The Smiths, who established the extensive plant on the Delaware, in Tinicum, more than one hundred

years ago, introduced the use of anthracite coal into the county; were the first to burn lime with hard coal, etc., etc.; but another of your citizens should not be forgotten. I allude to the late James Jamison. The county is probably more indebted to him than to any other one man for the present method of burning lime in fixed kilns. He found, by repeated experiment, that by putting lime and coal in a kiln supported by girdles, with space underneath for wood to kindle the lower layer of coal the manufacture of lime was both expedited and cheapened. Previous to this wood had been exclusively used, but the cost of lime was now reduced to about one-half.

No township in the county is superior to Buckingham from an agricultural point of view; none, whose soil is richer; none, where there is more careful tillage; none, where the labor of the farmer is rewarded with better crops. The earliest attempt was made here to improve the condition of the husbandman by organized effort. This was by the organization of a society "for promoting agriculture and domestic manufactures," the first in the county, in 1811.

The meetings were held in school houses, and it probably died a natural death, but we are not informed of the date of its demise. It was followed by the "Bucks County Agricultural Society" whose first exhibition was held at Newtown in 1824. In 1826 Jeremiah Bailey exhibited the model of a machine for cutting grass and grain which had been in successful operation in Philadelphia county. James Worth used this machine on his farm at Newtown that season, and spoke in high terms of it. It is thought the introduction of a strong temperance resolution, by Dr. Phineas Jenks at the May meeting, 1829, hastened its winding up, but jealousy and rivalry among the members played their part. Among the early industrial establishments of Buckingham was the scythe and ax factory of Edward Kinsey, two miles northwest of Lahaska, where he had a trip hammer operated by water power. He was esteemed one of the finest mechanics in the county.

A century ago there was a cultivated and scholarly coterie in Solebury and Buckingham, and the sons and daughters of this township have maintained their reputation in more recent times. Several cultivated the Muse of poetry; the earliest of these was Dr. Joseph Watson, great-grandfather of the late Judge Richard Watson. His son, Dr. John Watson, devoted the latter years of his life to literary culture, and indulged his taste for poetry. He wrote in both prose and verse, and, among the former, is a "History of Buckingham and Solebury." In his "Ode to Spring," written in 1777, and rewritten and altered twenty-five years later, he sings the praises of the flowing Delaware, as

"The jolly boatman down the ebbing stream
By the clear moonlight plies his easy way."

Upon the death of Dr. Watson, a friendly hand wrote his obituary in a single verse:

"He is gone, who the lyre could awaken
To ecstasy's magical thrill,
Laoaskekia thy mount is forsaken,
And the heart of thy poet is still

Paul Preston, as well as his two daughters, wrote considerable poetry. Among his productions was a translation of Torquatus on the "Consolation of Philosophy," from the Latin, which his friends, published as a tribute to his memory after his death, in 1808. In 1787, his former friend and pupil, Dr. Jonathan Ingham, dedicated to Paul Preston an English translation of Theocritus.

Samuel Johnson, in his day, was one of the most cultivated and scholarly men of the county, and paid frequent court to the Muse. The lines addressed to his wife, on the 50th anniversary of their marriage; those on the "Harp," his "Vale of Lahaska," and an humorous poem entitled the "Banking Rats, a Fable," portraying the disastrous failure of a bank, are considered his best productions. In a lady's album he wrote the following two verses:

"Lady, I thus meet thy request,
Else should I not have deemed it best
To scribble on this spotless page
With the weak, trembling pen of age.
I've written in Time's album long,
Sketches of life with moral song,
Blotted in haste full many a leaf,
Whose list of beauties might be brief.

"Could I some pleasing views now glean,
'Twould make at best a Winter scene;
On the bleak side of seventy years
How sear the foliage appears;
And frost-nipt flowers we strive in vain
By culture to revive again;
The snows of time my temples strew
Warning to bid the Muse adieu."

Mr. Johnson's two daughters, Mrs. Jonathan Pickering and Mrs. Thomas Paxson, both deceased, inherited the poetic fire of their father. Of Mrs. Pickering's verses the lines addressed to Halley's Comet, of 1835, after it had disappeared from this hemisphere, beginning:

"Thou hast gone in thy brightness thou
beautiful star,
With the train of refulgence that streamed
from the car,"

are deemed her best; while Mrs. Paxson's stanzas, entitled "A Thanksgiving," an apostrophe to Nature are not unworthy her reputation. The following is the last stanza:

"For the memories that encircle
The happy days gone by;
For the holy aspirations
That lift the soul on high;
For the hope in brighter regions
By seraph footsteps trod,
To meet the lost and loved ones
I thank thee, Oh my God."

Others of the sons and daughters of Buckingham have paid court to the Muse, whose productions have merit, but we have neither space nor time to notice them.

A glance at the taxables and population of Buckingham is not without interest, and, in this, the singular fact presents itself, while the census shows a gradual increase in population, down to 1860, since then there has been a falling off. In 1722 the taxables were fifty-three, of which nine were single men; the heaviest tax-payer being Richard Humphrey Morris, £1, 3s, 9d, on 1,900 acres. They had increased to 178 by 1764. The heaviest tax raised was in 1781, the period of the greatest depression of Continental money, when it reached £6,767, 8d. In 1810 the population according to the Federal census, was 1,775; in 1830, 2,193; in 1850, 2,737; 3,088 in 1860; and 2,541 in 1890. Now the population begins to decrease, and, in the three decades, from 1860 to 1890, it has fallen off 544; that is, Buckingham has 6 per cent. less population than she had thirty years before. She was then the first, or second in population, and the fourth in 1890. In the same period twenty townships of the county had fallen off in population. In these figures is a serious problem.

Despite the fact that Buckingham was settled by Friends, who eschewed war and all its belongings, a martial spirit always exhibited itself in her young men. When Congress authorized an army, in 1775, John Lacey, raised a company for Wayne's regiment, and Samuel Smith, also of Quaker ancestry, was his first lieutenant. Robert Sample, a scholarly man, was a captain in Hubley's Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment, and served to the end of the war, and Joseph Fenton, Jr., was a surgeon in Colonel Joseph Hart's battalion, in the Amboy campaign, Fall of 1776. Samuel Smith was a Brigadier in the campaign on the Lower Delaware in the war with England, 1812-15, and his son, Andrew Jackson Smith, a Major General in the late war for the Union, in which a number of her sons served, and several laid down their lives for the cause.

If the empireship of Buckingham were determined by the number of her sons who have entered the professions, she would get the award without a contest. Eighteen of them have become "learned in the law" alone, and six ascended the bench; two of them reaching the court of last resort, one the Chief Justice. In addition, in two adjoining townships, one in each reached the State Supreme bench. Why is this? Why should so many of the young men of this immediate section seek to climb to fame up the steep ladder of the law, and with such signal success? Is it because of the air they breathe, the water they drink, or of some occult influence that controls their young manhood? I challenge any other township in the county to match it.

From *Democrat*
Douglas Town
 Date, *July 24. 1895*

BLOOMSDALE FERRY.

CAPTAIN BURNET LANDRETH'S LETTER.

Interesting Reference to an Old Ferry on the Delaware Long Unused.—The Ferry House, in Stage Coaching Days, was Known as the "Old Stone Tavern."

Six weeks ago General Davis, of the DEMOCRAT, received a letter from Adjutant General Stryker, of New Jersey, making inquiry about a ferry on the Delaware a mile above Bristol, stating that it was not mentioned in Davis' History of Bucks County. General Stryker was referred to Honorable William Kinsey, of Bristol, who takes great interest in local history, as one most likely to know its locality. In the course of his investigation, Mr. Kinsey received the following interesting letter from Captain Burnet Landreth, of Bristol which is so complete on the subject there is no room for doubt. A copy of this letter was sent to General Stryker, and also to the DEMOCRAT for publication, as follows:

"The first known record of Bloomsdale Ferry occurs in the title deeds of a transfer of the land upon which it stood, when sold to Christian Minnick, in 1770. It thereafter, for some years, was known as Minnick's Ferry.

"In a modern history of Delaware is to be found a letter from Colonel Thomas Rodney, grand-uncle of the first Mrs. David Landreth, in which he related that on 25th December, 1776, he was an officer present with a portion of the Continental Army drawn from Valley Forge and assembled at Neshaminy Ford.* On that day the force was ordered, as a diversion to the movement of Washington above Trenton, to cross the Delaware opposite Bordentown, and a portion of the troops crossed, but by reason of floating ice, the artillery and horses could not be taken over, and the Infantry had to be recalled. The next night, 26th December, a successful crossing was made at Minnick Ferry, one mile above Bristol, 3,000 men being taken over to Jersey, and moving upon Burlington and Mount Holly, the Commanders being Generals Putnam and Cadwalader.

"In 1797 the Ferry, with adjacent farm lands, became the property of Lewis

Leopold Notnagle, who named the estate Bloomsdale, probably, an Anglicizing of the German Bloomsdale. The Ferry then became known as Bloomsdale Ferry.

"In 1804, on the 13th of July, Colonel Aaron Burr who had killed Colonel Hamilton on the 11th, then on his flight southward, crossed at Bloomsdale Ferry and proceeded out the Bloomsdale Ferry Road westward. At that time the Jersey end of the Ferry was known as Schuyler's Ferry, it being situated at the end of Schuyler's Road, the land adjacent being owned by Aarent Schuyler, a son of General Philip Schuyler, of New York. An old log structure a part of the remains of the old Ferry House, was standing on the Jersey shore as late as 1860.

"In 1806 Notnagle sold Bloomsdale Ferry to John Mingen, who, in 1808, sold the Ferry to Dr. Amos Gregg, of Bristol, Pa. He shortly after sold it back to Notnagle, who died in 1813.

"In 1815 John Newbold purchased it from Stephen Girard, administrator of Nicholas Barreblino and John Goldred Wasek-smuth, executors of Notnagle.

"Notnagle was the grandson of Johann Bernhardt Notnagle, of Jena, High Forester and son of Ludwig Notnagle, Court Physician.

"Mr. Notnagle introduced the Lombardy Poplar along the banks of the Delaware and was interested in the breeding of imported sheep. In 1807 he erected the large stone barn now standing and repaired the Mansion House.

"Bloomsdale Ferry was discontinued in 1840 upon the introduction of a new boat at Bristol.

"The means of transportation at Bloomsdale was by flat boats or scows capable of carrying two wagons and four horses, the scow being propelled by oars. Flags were used in signalling by some simple code arrangement.

"The Ferry House, in stage coaching days, was a stopping place on the route between Philadelphia and New York, the Ferry House being known as the "Old Stone Tavern."

(Signed) "BURNET LANDRETH."
 29th June, 1895.

[*This is an error; no troops were drawn from Valley Forge to go to the Delaware in 1776; the Continental Army did not occupy Valley Forge until a year later.—ED.]

EVENTS OF HISTORY.

Col. Henry D. Paxson's Paper Read
 At Buckingham.

THE HERMIT OF THE WOLF ROCKS.

An Interesting Sketch of the Early History of Buckingham Into Which is Woven a Tale of Romance—A Beautiful Valley Charmed the Early Settlers.

Colonel Henry D. Paxson's valuable paper on "The Hermit of the Wolf Rocks," closes in to-day's REPUBLICAN. It will appear in full

in the weekly issue of Thursday, July 25.

"He sought this new abode where moonlight's wing
Curtailed the sleeping valley far below,
And life to him seemed like a weary thing,
Lulled by the music of the winds so low."

Sadly twisted and warped as his mind must have then been, yet in selecting the wierd romantic Wolf Rocks as his abode he seems to have had an appreciation of nature left. The ponderous rocks forming the roof of his new home stand sentinels over the valley he loved so well. It was a fitting place for his retirement, for while giving an outlook upon the busy world, was comparatively secure from the steps of any intruder.

The mountain and rocks were less frequented then than now, and days and perhaps weeks passed without a traveller visiting them. While his family and friends thought him lost, yet here, amid the changing seasons, with storm and wild tempests sweeping the mountains height and valley below with its white mantle of snow, he was secure in his rocky castle. What must have been his thoughts as he sat near the entrance of his lonely cell at midday, and beheld his kindred tilling the soil and gathering the harvest in the same field where he was once a toiler, were known only to him. He was a silent watcher of all the improvement going on in the valley and little on the line of travel on the Old York Road could have escaped his observation. His eye took in the quiet village of Lahaska, Greenville and Centreville, the spires of Doylestown and the far off Haycock Mountain with its rounded and blue summit. Many years he thus lived unknown to the outside world. He must have sallied forth at times to gather in supplies to stock his larder, but this was doubtless after the tired farmer had sought repose and night had spread her mantle over mountain and valley. At length he became less careful to conceal his identity and made occasional visits to near villages. But how changed his appearance, his long growth of hair and beard flowing over his breast and shoulders left no semblance of "Bert" Large of the valley, and

"The very mother that him bare
Would not have known her child."

At this period of his history, a few years before his discovery, he seems to have fallen into a very common but mistaken notion that to assuage grief or drown sorrow, a resort to the intoxicating bowl would give relief. Accordingly to the village inn went he with his little brown jug to be filled; but alas on his return home the jug or its contents became too heavy and he fell, not among thieves as of old, neither by the roadside, but upon a lime kiln's summit. The light from the burning kiln in the darkness of the night had drawn him thither, and a chilly October air led him to take advantage of the warmth there afforded, unmindful of the danger of inhaling the noxious coal gas. In the morning he was found by one of the employees of the late William H. Johnson, the great philanthropist and reformer. The little brown jug, his companion of the previous night, was yet beside him but showed no signs of life, its spirits had departed, and it was thought at first that those of the traveler had shared the same fate. Not so, however, for friend Johnson acted the part of a good Samaritan, had him removed to his house near by and the work of resuscitation commenced. Mr. Johnson, in writing of this incident some years ago, says:—

"One of the hands brought intelligence, early in the morning, that a man was lying at the top of one of the kilns then on fire,

and that he believed him to be dead. We went to the place and found the person still in the same position as when first seen. His face was turned toward the heated stone forming the top, and upon examination it showed a livid paleness. His eyes were entirely closed. A close inspection showed a slight breathing at long intervals. The kiln at the time being in full blast and having been on fire for more than a day, the carbonic gas was passing off very freely from the vent at the top, and the man having his face very near this opening had imbibed the noxious vapor until his lungs were now incapable of performing their office. A phial of hartshorn was at once applied to his nostrils. This very soon gave evidence that his lungs were yet capable of inhaling, although they had suffered a temporary paralysis. This breathing soon became improved, and it was not long before the whole body gave increased signs of animation. He sat up and preparations were soon making for a cup of coffee and some other refreshments. He showed no disposition to converse about his new abode or his singular nap, and, although his intended repast was nearly ready, he seized the momentary occasion of the person preparing it being absent from the room, to beat a hasty retreat. This was the last opportunity (until the time of his discovery) that presented of holding any intercourse with the man who obtained a distinction as the Hermit of the Wolf Rocks on Lahaska Mountain."

William H. Johnson was a near neighbor of Albert Large and had known him from childhood.

For some years after the incident just related Large was neither seen or heard of until there came on Friday morning, April 9, 1858, the startling announcement of his discovery.

DISCOVERY AT THE WOLF ROCKS.

The facts from well authenticated sources, are as follows: On the morning of that day as William Kennard, a well known colored man of this township, was passing along the foot of the Wolf Rocks, he observed smoke issuing from the rocks and heard a strange noise like the rattling of tin ware; or, to use his own words, "like the dragging of a kettle by a chain." He became alarmed and ran to another part of the mountain to obtain the company of another colored man, Moses Allen, to go back with him and make some explorations.

The two men, armed with a crow-bar, went back to the part of the rocks from which the strange sound emanated, and after making considerable explorations were about to abandon the enterprise, when it occurred to them that making a noise might bring the stranger to sight. They commenced boring the rock with a crow-bar, which had the effect of bringing a voice from some hiding place which asked, "who is it and what do you want?" They proceeded to the cleft in the rock and after diligent search succeeded in finding an entrance to a room or cavern in which was a human being. Upon being asked to come out he refused to do so, and denied the obtruders admittance, threatening to "put balls through them both" if they attempted to enter.

There had been so many strange rumors concerning the Wolf Rocks and their environments; their possible occupancy by a band of counterfeiters and outlaws; the story of the little girls who were gathering whortleberries or chestnuts near the rocks, and ran

some alarmed, stating to their parents they had seen a man at the Wolf Rocks with a beard a yard long; another, that the human voice had frequently been heard there on moonlight nights, pouring forth a stream of wild and romantic melody, when at the same time no person could be discovered from whom it could possibly have emanated. From these and other rumors the two men thought it unsafe to proceed further without reinforcements, and they accordingly secured the services of several stalwart men from the limestone quarries of the late Aaron Ely.

The large party, plentifully armed with crowbars, churn-augers and other quarrymen's tools, returned to the rocks and began the research. The sounding of heavy iron bars upon the rock roof of the cavern, with a huge fire at its entrance, and the loud voices of the quarrymen calling upon the occupant to come out, compelled him to yield and he displaced the large stone that formed the door of his abode and reluctantly came forth. The exploring party were dumfounded to find him to be the missing Albert Large. In appearance at that time he is described as a man about the average size, with rather round or drooping shoulders, over which fell long grey hair in profusion. His beard extended almost to his waist, and with his ancient and tattered clothing and general unkept appearance he presented a picture of a veritable wild man.

The exploring party having made a favorable impression on him by promises that no injury should be done him, he at length became composed and gave them some account of his history and mode of living and invited them to inspect his den. The cave was located about midway of the "Big Wolf Rocks" and a short distance below what is termed the "Wolf Hole," a place that has been observed by all who have ever paid this wild spot a visit. The entrance was from the north side and could only be affected by going on all fours. The first place they entered was his kitchen or culinary department. In it were found a rude fireplace, some pipe to carry off the smoke, several buckets, a powder keg with a leather strap for a handle, several tin pans, an iron pot for boiling his food and a number of minor cooking utensils.

The next apartment was his sleeping room which was separated from the kitchen by a rough mortar wall of his own construction. This room was not high enough for a man to walk erect, but when once ensconced therein, its occupant was pretty cozy and comfortable. It contained a pretty good mattress that served him as his bed, an old stool and a few other articles that made up his chamber suit. This room was so surrounded by board work and mortar that the penetration of dampness was impossible. Over the entrance leading to the cave was a large flat stone, which he rolled away at pleasure when he wanted to go out, and which was carefully replaced when he returned and wished to enter his sanctum. Altogether his cave was a place of some comforts, and to a man who wished to be secluded from the world was capable of being a resort of much happiness and pleasure.

Large claimed he purchased his tobacco and some provision at village stores several miles distant. This is probably true, but it was thought at that time that the balance of his provisions such as apples, potatoes, turkeys, chickens, milk, and beef from the smoke house, were never paid for. He stated that one hard Winter he was shut in his cave for six weeks, and that with the

snow of an unknown depth above his cave and provisions and tobacco running low, the situation was anything but cheering.

During the Summer season parties came to the rocks almost weekly and kept him pretty well posted as to the news in the valley. While he was in their very midst, as it were, and could hear all that was said, his presence was unknown to them. The natural arm chair and sofa of stone, objects of rare curiosity, are close by his cave, and he heard much in the way of "biling and cooing" there happening.

The "Wolf Hole," that dark recess, was visited by another class in nowise allied to those just alluded to, and while Large is not known to have disclosed the robberies and incendiaries there plotted, yet several parties of doubtful reputation found it convenient to move from the neighborhood shortly after his discovery.

At the time of his discovery considerable speculation existed in the public mind as to the length of time he had occupied this sequestered and secluded spot. To his captors, Large claimed a residence of forty years, but in this he must have been mistaken. The best and most reliable authorities in the valley at that time agreed that his hermit life was not over twenty years; perhaps about 18 years, from the time he first entered the cave until his discovery in 1858.

The news of the discovery of the long-lost Albert Large and his cave spread like a forest fire and the public curiosity was aroused by the circumstances so novel and mysterious. That a man had been living Summer and Winter, for so many years in a cavern of a rock, in sight of the heart of the valley, was too much for the credulity of the neighborhood. The Sunday following his discovery all avenues leading to the mountain were lined with vehicles heavily freighted with humanity, all bent on reviewing the great discovery. They came from Doylestown, New Hope, Lambertville, Flemington, and in short the whole region of country from Tinicum to Newtown. For many weeks the excitement was unabated and the Wolf Rocks and hermit's cave were the principal theme uppermost at inns and stores. Every article found in his cave was thoroughly inspected, and it was not long before everything there, even to the board lining and mortar wall, were carried away as relics by curious people.

Accounts of his finding were published far and wide at the time, and residents of our county when travelling in the far Western states have frequently been asked about the Buckingham hermit. Not only in our own land but from far offshores we find our transatlantic journals giving the matter great publicity. Some of them were wide of the mark in matters of actual fact, and to show how the story got mystified in crossing the ocean, we quote entire, as a matter of curiosity, an article printed at that time, in the *Guide*, a paper published in London, England:

EXTRAORDINARY! DISCOVERY OF A HERMIT!

Hermits are things of the past, only to be found in story-books, or old worm-eaten novels of the end of the last century, in which trap doors and caverns play a distinguished and lugubrious part. It is, therefore, with some little surprise that we have to record the following well-authenticated story: There exists at a distance of some miles from Doyle's Town, Pennsylvania, a mountain known as the Wolf Rock. Goats alone find pasture on its barren cliffs, and even they must be sadly starved to seek

ood upon these naked and jagged stone hills. A few weeks ago, however, two blacks from Doyle's Town started in search of three stray goats, and tracked them to the foot of Wolf Rock. They had no alternative then but to scale the rugged mountain. It was no easy task, for the hunters had nearly all the time to crawl upon their hands and knees.

Evening drew in, and yet there were no signs of more than one of the goats. They accordingly made up their minds to re-descend, when their attention was attracted to a noise in some hollow of the hill. Negroes are naturally curious, while they even fancied they were upon the track of the two fugitives. They determined then, to explore further, and advanced towards the entrance of a mysterious-looking grotto. It was a narrow fissure, obstructed by roots and stones. After much exertion, one succeeded in crawling in upon his face; but just as his eyes were becoming used to the darkness, a voice from out the gloom cried, "What do you want?" The negro knew not what to say. He stammered out that he was looking for a goat. For some minutes there was no reply; then a mysterious voice cried out, "Wretch, you advance to your destruction! One step more, and you are a dead man!"

The black could stand it no longer, but backed out as speedily as possible from the hollow, and rapidly regained Doyle's Town, telling everybody he met that he had been face to face with the Prince of Darkness. Now, the inhabitants of Doyle's Town are not superstitious, but they are curious. They accordingly determined to learn the truth. Plentifully supplied with arms, lanterns, &c., they surrounded the cavern, after lighting a great fire at its entrance. The supposed demon, not liking to endure the fate of Marshall Pelissier's Arabs, came forth. He was a man of herculean stature, clothed in skins of goats and foxes, with long hair and beard, and singularly wild eyes. He was at once made prisoner, and his dwelling examined.

It was a large grotto, divided into three compartments, lined with moss, and receiving light and air from above. There was a fire place, a comfortable bed, and numerous remains of poultry were there, which explained the frequent and mysterious disappearance of fowls, etc., which had been noticed by the neighboring farmers for some years. Questioned as to his name and strange existence, the Sybarite hermit declared his name to be Albert Large. He assured his captors that for forty years he had dwelt in that retired cavern, never leaving it but at night to hunt for the poultry, goats and pigs on which he fed. A disappointment in love had driven him to his extremity. His brother, Joseph S. Large, is an eminent minister of the Episcopal Church."

Such, my hearers, are the stories, both authentic and apocryphical, of Albert Large the hermit, as I have gleaned them. After his discovery he lingered about the mountain but a short time, and on yonder rocky promontory he is said to have taken his farewell view of the beauty-woven valley, and bade a silent but mournful adieu to those weird and romantic rocks, endeared to him as a home through all the changing seasons of those many years of his life in solitude.

From thence forth all traces of him and his later history have been lost. It was thought by some that he might have gone to another cave or hiding place somewhere along the banks of the river Schuylkill, but

there is nothing to warrant such belief.

It is now over 37 years since his departure, and if living he would be 90 years of age. It is most likely that long ago he paid the debt of nature, as his habits and mode of life were not calculated to lead beyond "the days of our years" as allotted by the Psalmist. Instances of a life like this are very rare, and if all were known of him, an interesting volume would be the meditations and reveries of Albert Large, the Hermit of the Wolf Rocks.

From, *Intelligence*

Doylestown Pa

Date, *July 25, 1895*

HISTORICAL.

The Hermit of the Wolf Rocks, in Buckingham,

A Paper Read by Colonel Henry D. Paxson,
at the Midsummer Meeting of the Bucks
County Historical Society, at the Wolf
Rocks, Buckingham Mountain, Bucks
County, Pa., July 16th, 1895.

*Mr. President, Members of the Bucks
County Historical Society, Ladies and
Gentlemen:*

It is a source of great gratification for me, on this occasion, on behalf of the good people of Buckingham, to bid to the friends of the Bucks County Historical Society, a hearty welcome to the Empire Township.

All lovers of local history commend the good work being done by this society in rescuing from oblivion many interesting facts and history of our county that would otherwise have been lost to the present as well as future generations, and we should express our approbation for the valuable service rendered to this end by Messrs. Davis, Paschall, Turner, Smith, Yerkes, Chapman, Wright, Mercer, Laubach, Bailey, Michener, Buck and many others. To the press of our county, principally through our worthy president and secretary, we are indebted for publishing the many valuable papers read before the society from time to time. This, besides awakening an interest in the subject, has done much to preserve these valuable articles, and I trust the day is not far distant when some generous and broad minded citizen of our county will donate a sufficient fund to our Society to enable it to publish all of these valuable papers in book form and

thereby put them in proper shape for preservation for all time to come.

There is an eminent fitness for this meeting to be held at this place, for we are truly upon historic ground; not made memorable by any achievements in armed conflict for mastery, but rather by deeds of peace enunciated by Pennsylvania's founder and great law giver. As the eye takes in the grand panorama of the valley and the wooded slopes outlining its western border, our minds naturally revert to the changed conditions which two centuries of civilization have wrought. Let us look back to the period when our early pioneers who halted by the way at Newtown, while others pushed up through the woods of Wrightstown, scaled our Mountain to behold this land of promise. It was not the land spoken of in the Scripture which the leader of the children of Israel was led to view but not allowed to enter; on the contrary, they came with passports that gave to them a lasting heritage. What a wondrous world of beauty met the pioneers' enraptured gaze as from the mountain top their eyes rested on this beautiful valley clothed in primeval forests of oak, hickory and walnut, and broken only here and there by small clearings where the aborigines practiced their rude form of agriculture. The smoke yet ascended from the wigwam of the Indian at Holi-cong and the bright water of the Lahaska creek rippled over its pebbly bed, on whose banks the Lenni Lenape with his bow and quiver startled the wild deer from its repose. Is it any wonder that the pioneers here rested, that here they built their meeting house and homes? Among the number who took title from Penn were the following: Thomas Bye, 600 acres; James Streater, 500 acres; Thomas Parsons, 500 acres; John Reynolds, 900 acres, and Richard Lundy, 1000 acres. To one standing on Buckingham Mountain the eye covers all of these various tracts. Down to 1700, little inroad had been made upon the forest and upon the heavy timber the woodman's axe made slow progress.

It was not long after the first purchasers that others joined therein and a new era of prosperity, civilization and refinement was inaugurated. The soil was found to be unsurpassed in fertility and the melodies of wood and stream brought the Prestons, Canbys, Parrys, Larges, Andersons, Elys, Fells, Paxsons and others, and the large tracts were divided and sub-divided to suit the views of purchasers.

The opening up of the Old York road and the Durham road, which cross at Centreville, also turned the tide of travel thitherward, and was one of the forerunners of civilization.

A place of worship always makes an important mark in the history of a community, but it was not until 1729 that a Monthly Meeting of Friends was established at Buckingham. The early settlers were mainly Friends, or people inclined that way as distinguished from church people, and were, previous to this time, a part of the Falls meeting. History has it recorded that occasionally the trip was made on foot; if so, it was a religion of sacrifice and not an easy-going one as now.

The first meeting house was built of

logs in 1705 and in a few years it was found insufficient to accommodate the largely increased worshippers and a larger one, also of logs, was built near the site of the old one. This took fire in 1768, while the meeting was in session, and in 1769 was built the present house as we now find it. Thomas Canby, of Thorn, Yorkshire, England, came over with Penn and was the first clerk, and he and his descendants served in that capacity for a period of one hundred years. The late Thomas Paxson was the last in the line, his grandfather, also Thomas, having married a daughter of Thomas Canby. Friend Canby was no ordinary man, and to him was due in no small measure the growth and prosperity of this particular meeting. He lived many years where we now find Samuel and Joseph Anderson and was rather of 17 children. The name is not common at present, but this is accounted for from the fact that a large portion of the family were girls and that they had a fashion in those days, as now, of changing their names in early womanhood, as good offers presented. Thus the name was lost, not so the blood, a proportionate quantity yet remains, is carried down the stream of time and the pulse will register its ebb and flow to the latest generation.

What hallowed memories cling around this historic old meeting house! In the Revolution its roof sheltered the sick and wounded soldier, while its old casements have resounded with the sharp report of the flint-lock or the measured tread of guard. And how rich and rare in remembrance of many sunny and sad scenes, of both bridals and burials, are those quaint old walls as they stand festooned in stern and strict simplicity. Here most of the marriage happenings of this section were consummated. On one October day, in 1824, four parties knotted the golden tie that binds two willing hearts. They were Dr. John Wilson and Mary Fell, Samuel Eastburn and Mary Carver, David Lewis and Ann Saul, and Daniel Smith and Hannah Betts. Daniel Smith long survived all the others and his decease took place very recently.

The ancient horse blocks are lasting sentinels of by-gone days when men and women came to meeting on horseback and made use of them in mounting and dismounting, and those majestic old oaks have stood ward and watcher around the old edifice through many generations of worshippers.

Here, too, we find the old graveyard wherein are gathered many generations of our forefathers. From 1700 to 1800 there was no other burial ground for many miles around and here it may be truthfully said:

"Each in his narrow cell forever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

The school house, too, close by, has strong claims to memory, for here under

such able instructors as Joseph Fell, William H. Johnson and Thomas Paxson, many men who have since risen to eminence received their early education. While the yellow fever prevailed in Philadelphia in 1793, Jesse Blackfan and Benjamin Ely, merchants of that city, brought their goods up to this school house, and in the second story opened

kept store until they felt safe in returning to the city. It is also memorable as being the place where the first agricultural society of this county was organized. And so the old edifice has claims historical as well as classical.

While we cannot in this paper mention all of the events which have made this valley historical, or call to mind all the men who have shed lustre on this county, yet here is a rather remarkable coincidence which must not escape our observation. On yonder slope an unpretending farm house registers the birth-place of ex-Chief Justice Edward M. Paxson. Upon an adjoining farm Justice D. Newlin Fell first saw the light of day. Still in front of them, with but a small farm intervening, we find the birth-place of the late Judge Richard Watson. All three were reared upon the farm and knew little or nothing of college life, but drank in from nature's fountain and our common schools the elements of success in life; who will say that the Empire Township has not a prolific soil?

The Old York Road over which many of you traveled in coming to this meeting is full of historic interest, and covered by long years of travel when it was the great thoroughfare between Philadelphia and New York. Along this road ran the great, swift-sure four-horse mail and passenger coach thundering along, all weathers and roads, rocking and surging on her leather suspenders. Now she sticks in the mud—all out—heave oh! and onward we go, warranted withal with many relays of horses to go through in three days. What mighty changes in travel since then, and yet it is only about fifty years since the sight was familiar. Now we run sitting still and fly without wings. A traveler going through Buckingham Valley, on the New Hope Cannon Ball Express, recently remarked that he saw but two objects, hay stacks, and they were both going the other way. Nor was the old stage coach the only line of travel that has made the old roadway famous. It was a common carrier—an artery as it were—that supplied the life-blood to Philadelphia. Long lines of white tented wagons, filled with farm products from upper Bucks and New Jersey, found our road to meet their wants. They, however, like the stage line have been withdrawn and gone into history. General Washington likewise passed along this road with his army on his way from Valley Forge to the ferry at New Hope, after stopping over night at the town of Doyle.

Centreville, at the intersection of the York and Durham roads, and in the line of vision from the Wolf Rocks, is an old hamlet replete with historic interest. It was on a Monday morning, September 19, 1737, at 7 o'clock, that a picturesque group passed through this village on the line of what is now the Durham road. The party consisted of Timothy Smith, sheriff of Bucks county, assisted by Benjamin Eastburn, surveyor general, and his two deputies, Nicholas Scull and John Chapman, who with three Indians accompanied Edward Marshall, James Yates and Solomon Jennings on the famous walk to define the boundary of land released by the Indians to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania.

We have no record that the party stopped at the old hostelry for refresh-

ments and therefore presume that Sheriff Smith had anticipated the wants of the walkers and sent the provender along in advance.

Next in importance to the old meeting house, Righter's Hotel at Centreville has probably more of historic interest connected with it than any other building in the township, and if its ancient walls could speak what a talk they could unfold. This old hostelry dates back far beyond the Revolution and at that trying period of our country's history was known as "Bogart's Tavern." Here General Green had his headquarters, and its hospitable roof sheltered the great and good Washington on the many occasions he passed through our township on the mission of his country. Here was the recruiting station, and here many a poor fellow shouldered the flint lock and bade adieu to friends and family for the chances of war, and never returned to relate the story of his privations and suffering. Here the "Bucks County Committee of Safety" was organized and many of its most important meetings held. What a picture could be painted of this old inn. Fancy a little band of patriot farmers gathered here late at night laying their rude plans for the defense of their country. Now there is a pause in their deliberations—each man grasps his flint lock for without there is borne on the midnight air the noisy clatter of horses' hoofs hurrying down the Durham road. In fear and breathless silence they wait until the sound is lost in the distance of the mountain. Now they breathe a sigh of relief for well they knew it was—Moses Doan and his band of Tory outlaws.

These are a few of the many incidents of history connected with the environments of our meeting to-day, which afford a rich field for the historian, and which the limits of time allow but a passing reference by way of a prelude or introduction to what is announced in the programme.

"THE HERMIT OF THE WOLF ROCKS."

In the year 1709, Joseph Large, the great grandfather of Albert Large, the hermit and subject of this sketch, attracted by the many inducements offered to agriculturists in the Buckingham Valley, for it was then beautiful as now, purchased of Richard Lundy, for the consideration of £20, a tract of 100 acres of land, extending from the line of John Reynold's land on the mountain, northward towards the York road, and was a part of a 1000 acre tract which Richard Lundy purchased of one Jacob Telnor. He also purchased of Samuel Blaker in 1759 a tract of 50 acres adjoining the above for £238. It will be noted there was large increase in land values in 50 years. Joseph Large in his will, dated May 10, 1784, among other things devised to his son, John Large, his farm containing 150 acres, and extending from the Old York road on the north, to the Reynolds line on the mountain, on the south. The Reynolds line is but a few rods south of the Wolf Rocks, where the present meeting is held. John Large died February 2, 1794, leaving a widow, Rachel Large and seven children, Jonathan, William, Samuel, (born December 6, 1775), John, Achilles, Elizabeth and Sarah, to whom the farm descended. In the partition made in 1799, a tract containing 122 acres (and covering the Wolf

Rocks) was adjudged to Samuel Large, the hermit's father. Standing at the Wolf Rocks the whole tract lies before you. Here Samuel Large pursued his occupation as an agriculturist, but what made him famous was his skill as a fox hunter. His appointments for the chase were the best, and his well trained hounds and fleet steed that knew no fence as a barrier was the admiration of all beholders. It was a gala day on the hunt when Large with his aids, the Elys and Byes, gave chase. Foxes were then abundant and their runways covered a large territory of wooded tracts. Buckingham and Solebury Mountains, Bowman's Hill and Jericho Mountain were favorite haunts of sly reynard, and however hotly pursued seldom varied to cover their retreat. Even to this day an occasional fox is seen on the mountain, but the baying of the hounds and the horn's clear notes on moonlight nights are no longer heard in the valley.

Of the children of Samuel Large the most conspicuous were Joseph and Albert, the former as a teacher at the Old Tyro Hall school, in Buckingham, and afterwards as an Episcopal clergyman in the far West, and the latter whose remarkable case of seclusion has made his name historic and won for him a world wide notoriety as the most celebrated hermit of modern times.

We have no data to fix the exact year of Albert Large's birth, but circumstances lead to the belief it was about the year 1805. Of his childhood and training there is little reliable information now known other than his general dislike for restraint and confinement. The school room was no place for him, and books at this period of his life were an abomination. The late Joseph Fell, with all his skill as an able and successful instructor, was unable to instill in the mind of this pupil, "Bert" Large, a liking for books. Playing truant was not unknown to him, and the wilds of Buckingham Mountain were his delight. Here, like a child of Nature, he would wander for days at a time through the shady woods, admiring the wild flowers that grew unrestrained along those leafy isles or listening to the wood bird's sweet but plaintive note. Then, when worn out, he would recline on some mossy rock and dreamily watch the fleecy clouds floating along the blue firmament until lulled to sleep by the gentle sighing of the winds through the mountain oak.

Thus passed his boyhood days, and when early manhood arrived a train of events occurred that may have changed his purpose and turned his whole after life into the sad but interesting and romantic story we find it. Affliction came upon the family, and the pale messenger bore his beloved mother, Elizabeth, across the river which separates us from the long hereafter. However much it may have borne heavily on them at the time.

"The father's tears were few and brief,
For he woo'd and won another;
But ever before the eyes of the son
Came the image of his mother."

It does not appear that the introduction of the new mother, Mary Dean, added to his home attractions, for now he is known to have absented himself from home for long periods. Yet as the sun-

shine that dispels the cloud is the brightest, so the joy that follows grief is often the sweetest. Tender words of sympathy and encouragement from a fair one of the valley did much to overcome his former grief and trials. Here tradition broadly hints a love entanglement connected therewith. The valley, then as now, was the seat of beauty and refinement, and why should he escape the smiles that from time to time had led others captive. There was one above all others whose charms were proverbial

She was the grand luminary of attraction, the star at which all others knelt, whose smile was sweeter and whose silver laugh was merrier than all others as it rang among the sylvan bowers of Lahaska. That he aspired to her hand there is every reason to believe and that mutual love did not materialize is also known, but at whose hands the fault lies remains as yet an untold tale. A proper respect for the changed condition of things impels me to keep silent as to the name of the fair one. On what a slender cord sometimes hangs one's future happiness and station in life. This second disappointment or lost hope turned him away from human society, and for many years his abode was entirely unknown to his family or the outside world.

"He sought his new abode where moonlight's wing

Curtained the sleeping valley far below,
And life to him seemed like a weary thing,

Lulled by the music of the wind so low."

Sadly twisted and warped as his mind must have then been, yet in selecting the weird and romantic Wolf Rocks as his abode he seems to have had an appreciation of nature left. The ponderous rocks forming the roof of his new home stand sentinels over the valley he loved so well. It was a fitting place for his retirement, for while giving an outlook upon the busy world, was comparatively secure from the steps of any intruder. The mountain and rocks were less frequented then than now, and days and perhaps weeks passed without a traveler visiting them. While his family and friends thought him lost, yet here amid the changing seasons, with storm and wild tempests sweeping the mountains height and valley below with its white mantel of snow, he was secure in his rocky castle. What must have been his thoughts as he sat near the entrance of his lonely cell at midday and beheld his kindred tilling the soil and gathering the harvest in the same field where he was once a toiler, were known only to him. He was a silent watcher of all the improvements going on in the valley and little on the line of travel on the Old York Road could have escaped his observation. His eye took in the quiet villages of Lahaska, Greenville and Centreville, the spires of Doylestown and the far off Haycock mountain with its rounded and blue summit. Many years he thus lived unknown to the outside world. He must have sailed forth at times to gather in supplies to stock his larder, but this was doubtless after the tired farmer had sought repose and night had spread her mantel over mountain and valley. At length he became less careful to conceal his identity and made occasional visits to nearby villages. But how changed his appearance, his long

growth of hair and beard flowing over his breast and shoulders left no semblance of "Bert" Large of the valley, and

"The very mother that him bare
Would not have known her child."

At this period of his history, a few years before his discovery, he seems to have fallen into a very common but mistaken notion that to assuage grief or drown sorrow, a resort to the intoxicating bowl would give relief. Accordingly, to the village inn went he with his little brown jug to be filled; but alas on his return home the jug or its contents became too heavy and he fell, not among thieves as of old, neither by the roadside, but upon a lime kiln's summit. The light from the burning kiln in the darkness of the night had drawn him thither, and a chilly October air led him to take advantage of the warmth there afforded, unmindful of the danger of inhaling the noxious coal gas. In the morning he was found by one of the employes of the late William H. Johnson, the great philanthropist and reformer. The little brown jug, his companion of the previous night, was yet beside him, but showed no signs of life, its spirits had departed, and it was thought at first that those of the traveler had shared the same fate. Not so, however, for friend Johnson acted the part of a good Samaritan, had him removed to his house near by and the work of resuscitation commenced. Mr. Johnson, in writing of this incident some years ago, says:

"One of the hands brought intelligence early in the morning, that a man was lying at the top of one of the kilns then on fire, and that he believed him to be dead. We went to the place and found the person still in the same position as when first seen. His face was turned towards the heated stone forming the top, and upon examination it showed a livid paleness. His eyes were entirely closed. A close inspection showed a slight breathing at long intervals. The kiln at the time having been on fire for more than a day, the carbonic gas was passing off very freely from the vent at the top and the man having his face very near this opening had imbibed the noxious vapor until his lungs were now incapable of performing their office. * * * A phial of hartshorn was at once applied to his nostrils. This very soon gave evidence that his lungs were yet capable of inhaling, although they had suffered a temporary paralysis. This breathing soon became improved and it was not long before the whole body gave increased signs of animation. He sat up and preparations were soon making for a cup of coffee and some other refreshments. He showed no disposition to converse about his new abode or his singular nap, and, although his intended repast was nearly ready, he seized the momentary occasion of the person preparing it being absent from the room, to beat a hasty retreat. This was the last opportunity (until the time of his discovery) that presented of holding any intercourse with the man who obtained a distinction as the Hermit of the Wolf Rocks on Lahaska Mountain."

William H. Johnson was a near neighbor of Albert Large and had known him from childhood.

For some years after the incident just related Large was neither seen nor heard

of until there came on Friday morning, April 9, 1858, the startling announcement of his

DISCOVERY AT THE WOLF ROCKS

the facts of which, from well authenticated sources, are as follows: On the morning of that day as William Kennard, a well-known colored man of this township, was passing along the foot of the Wolf Rocks, he observed smoke issuing from the rocks and heard a strange noise like the rattling of tinware, or, to use his own words, "like the dragging of a kettle by a chain," he became alarmed and ran to another part of the mountain to obtain the company of another colored man, Moses Allen, to go back with him and make some explorations. The two men armed with a crowbar went back to the part of the rocks from which the strange sound emanated, and after making considerable explorations were about to abandon the enterprise, when it occurred to them that making a noise might bring the stranger to sight. They commenced boring the rock with a crowbar which had the effect of bringing a voice from some hiding place which asked, "Who is it and what do you want?" They proceeded to the cleft in the rock and after diligent search succeeded in finding an entrance to a room or cavern in which was a human being. Upon being asked to come out he refused to do so and denied the obtruders admittance, threatening to "put balls through them both" if they attempted to enter. There had been so many strange rumors concerning the Wolf Rocks and their environments; their possible occupancy by a band of counterfeiters and outlaws; the story of the little girls who were gathering whortleberries or chestnuts near the rocks, and ran home alarmed stating to their parents they had seen a man at the Wolf Rocks with a beard a yard long; another, that the human voice had frequently been heard there on moonlight nights, pouring forth a stream of wild and romantic melody, when at the same time no person could be discovered from whom it could possibly have emanated, from these and other rumors the two men thought it unsafe to proceed further without reinforcements, and they accordingly secured the services of several stalwart men from the limestone quarries of the late Aaron Ely. The large party, plentifully armed with crowbars, churn-augers and other quarrymen's tools, returned to the rocks and began their research. The sounding of heavy iron bars upon the rock roof of the cavern, with a huge fire at its entrance, and the loud voices of the quarrymen calling upon the occupant to come out, compelled him to yield and he displaced the large stone that formed the door of his abode and reluctantly came forth. The exploring party were dumfounded to find him to be the missing Albert Large. In appearance at that time he is described as a man about the average size with rather round or drooping shoulders over which fell long gray hair in profusion. His beard extended almost to his waist, and with his ancient and tattered clothing and general unkempt appearance, he presented a picture of a

veritable wild man. The exploring party having made a favorable impression on him by promises that no injury should be done him, he at length became composed and gave them some account of his history and mode of living and invited them to inspect his den. The cave was located about midway of the "Big Wolf Rocks," and a short distance below what is termed the "Wolf Hole," a place that has been observed by all who have ever paid this wild spot a visit. The entrance was from the North side and could only be effected by going on all fours. The first place they entered was his kitchen or culinary department. In it were found a rude fire-place, some pine to carry off the smoke, several buckets, a powder keg with a leather strap for a handle, several tin pans, an iron pot for boiling his food and a number of minor cooking utensils. The next apartment was his sleeping room, which was separated from the kitchen by a rough mortar wall of his own construction. This room was not high enough for a man to walk erect, but when once ensconced therein, its occupant was pretty cozy and comfortable. It contained a pretty good mattress which served as his bed, an old stool and a few other articles that made up his chamber suit. This room was so surrounded by board work and mortar that the penetration of dampness was impossible. Over the entrance leading to the cave was a large flat stone which he rolled away at pleasure when he wanted to go out and which was carefully replaced when he returned and wished to enter his sanctum. Altogether his cave was a place of some comforts, and to a man who wished to be secluded from the world was capable of being a resort of much happiness and pleasure.

Large claimed he purchased his tobacco and some provisions at the village stores several miles distant. This is probably true, but it was thought at that time that the balance of his provisions, such as apples, potatoes, turkeys, chickens, milk and beef from the smoke house, were never paid for. He stated that one hard winter he was shut in his cave for six weeks, and that with the snow of an unknown depth above his cave and provisions and tobacco running low, the situation was anything but cheering.

During the summer season parties came to the rocks almost weekly and kept him pretty well posted as to the news in the valley. While he was in their very midst, as it were, and could hear all that was said, his presence was unknown to them. The natural arm chair and sofa of stone, objects of rare curiosity, are close by his cave, and he heard much in the way of "biling and cooing" there happening. The "Wolf Hole," that dark recess, was visited by another class in nowise allied to those just alluded to, and while Large is not known to have disclosed the robberies and incendiaries there plotted, yet several parties of doubtful reputation found it convenient to move from the neighborhood shortly after his discovery.

At the time of his discovery considerable speculation existed in the public mind as to the length of time he had occupied this sequestered and secluded

spot. To his captors, Large claimed a residence of forty years but in this he must have been mistaken. The best and most reliable authorities in the valley at that time agreed that his hermit life was not over twenty years; perhaps about 18 years, from the time he first entered the cave until his discovery in 1858.

The news of the discovery of the long lost Albert Large and his cave spread like a forest fire and the public curiosity was aroused by the circumstances so novel and mysterious. That a man had been living summer and winter, for so many years in a cavern of a rock, in sight of the heart of the valley, was too much for the credulity of the neighborhood. The Sunday following his discovery all avenues leading to the mountain were lined with vehicles heavily freighted with humanity all bent on reviewing the great discovery. They came from Doylestown, New Hope, Lambertville, Flemington, and in short the whole region of country from Tinicum to Newtown. For many weeks the excitement was unabated and the Wolf Rocks and Hermit's Cave were the principal theme uppermost at inns and stores. Every article found in his cave was thoroughly inspected, and it was not long before everything there, even to the board lining and mortar wall, were carried away as relics by curious people.

Accounts of his finding were published far and wide at the time, and residents of our county when traveling in the far Western States have frequently been asked about the Buckingham hermit. Not only in our own land but from far off shores we find our trans-Atlantic journals giving the matter great publicity. Some of them were wide of the mark in matters of actual fact, and to show how the story got mystified in crossing the ocean, we quote entire, as a matter of curiosity, an article printed at that time, in the *Guide*, a paper published in London, England:

*"Extraordinary—Discovery of a Hermit—*Hermits are things of the past, to be found only in story books, or old worm-eaten novels of the end of the last century, in which trap-doors and caverns play a distinguished and lugubrious part. It is, therefore, with some little surprise that we have to record the following well-authenticated story: There exists at a distance of some miles from Doyle's Town, Pennsylvania, a mountain known as the Wolf Rock. Goats alone find pasture on its barren cliffs, and even they must be sadly starved to seek food upon these naked and jagged stone hills. A few weeks ago, however, two blacks from Doyle's Town started in search of three stray goats, and tracked them to the foot of Wolf Rock. They had no alternative then but to scale the rugged mountain. It was no easy task, for the hunters had nearly all the time to crawl upon their hands and knees. Evening drew in and yet there were no signs of more than one of the goats. They accordingly made up their minds to redescend, when their attention was attracted to a noise in some hollow of the hill. Negroes are naturally curious, while they even fancied they were upon the track of the two fugitives. They determined then to explore further, and advanced towards the entrance of a mys-

sterious-looking grotto. It was a narrow, fissure, obstructed by roots and stones. After much exertion, one succeeded in crawling in upon his face; but just as his eyes were becoming used to the darkness, a voice from out the gloom cried, "What do you want?" The negro knew not what to say. He stammered out that he was looking for a goat. For some minutes there was no reply; then a mysterious voice cried out, "Wretch, you advance to your destruction. One step more, and you are a dead man." The black could stand it no longer, but backed out as speedily as possible from the hollow, and rapidly regained Doyle's Town, telling everybody he met that he had been face to face with the Prince of Darkness. Now, the inhabitants of Doyle's Town

are not superstitious, but they are curious. They accordingly determined to learn the truth. Plentifully supplied with arms, lanterns, &c., they surrounded the cavern, after lighting a great fire at its entrance. The supposed demon, not liking to endure the fate of Marshal Pelissier's Arabs, came forth. He was a man of herculean stature, clothed in skins of goats and foxes, with long hair and beard, and singularly wild eyes. He was at once made prisoner, and his dwelling examined. It was a large grotto, divided into three compartments, lined with moss, and receiving light and air from above. There was a fire place, a comfortable bed, and numerous remains of poultry were there, which explained the frequent and mysterious disappearance of fowls, &c., which had been noticed by the neighboring farmers for some years.

Questioned as to his name and strange existence, the Sybarite hermit declared his name to be Albert Large. He assured his captors that for forty years he had dwelt in that retired cavern, never leaving it but at night to hunt for the poultry, goats and pigs on which he fed. A disappointment in love had driven him to this extremity. His brother, Joseph S. Large, is an eminent minister of the Episcopal Church."

Such, my hearers, are the stories, both authentic and apocryphal, of Albert Large the hermit, as I have gleaned them. After his discovery he lingered about the mountain but a short time, and on yonder rocky promontory he is said to have taken his farewell view of the beauty woven valley, and bade a silent but mournful adieu to those weird and romantic rocks, endeared to him as a home through all the changing seasons of those many years of his life in solitude.

From thence forth all traces of him and his late history have been lost. It was thought by some that he might have gone to another cave or hiding place some where along the banks of the river Schuylkill, but there is nothing to warrant such belief.

It is now over 37 years since his departure and if living he would be 90 years of age. It is most likely that long ago he paid the debt of nature, as his habits and mode of life were not calculated to lead beyond "the days of our years" as allotted by the Psalmist. Instances of life like this are very rare, and if all were known of him, an interesting volume would be the meditations and reveries of Albert Large, the hermit of the Wolf Rocks.

HISTORICAL.

The Early County Superintendency in Bucks.

A Paper Read by Ex-Superintendent Hugh B. Eastburn, of Doylestown, at the Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, on Buckingham Mountain, July 16, 1895.

The question of education in its relation to the individual, to the community, and to the State, has always been from the founding of our State a matter of exceeding interest to those who have been interested in the progress and prosperity of our people. As we all know, the great founder of our Commonwealth, in framing the Constitution which seemed to him to be necessary in guiding the infant energies of the young State which he had created, said, "That, therefore, which makes a good Constitution must keep it, viz: Men of wisdom and virtue, qualities, which, because they descend not with worldly inheritances, must be carefully propagated by a virtuous education of youth." But while there have always been many institutions of a private character for the instruction of youth in our State that have done superior work and have aided in the development of great intellectual power amongst our people, while in our own county there have been such institutions to whose labors can be traced great results, notably the case of the Log College in Warminster founded nearly a century and three-quarters ago, while academies, seminaries and colleges have done much to promote the well-being of the State, yet our system of common school instruction has had to wait for its development and growth until within a comparatively recent period. In 1834 the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed its first General Act providing for a system of common schools. It was not made obligatory upon any township or borough in the State to accept all of its provisions; those provisions could be made operative and of value only as each school district in the State might see fit to put them into force. The deep-rooted feeling of antagonism upon the part of many people to any system of education which required for its support the payment of taxes by the general public, and consequently the contribution to the public treasury by those who had no children to send to school as well as by those who had, the former claiming that they could not be benefited by the payment of a school tax, constantly manifested itself in the disposition to render of no avail the provisions of the law; and the result was that in a large number of the districts of the State there was a failure to put the Act fully in force for many years after its enactment. Assaults were made upon the law in the Legislature, and it was only by the labors of Thaddeus Stevens, Thomas H. Burrows and their co-peers that it was saved upon the statute books. The districts that so failed to adopt were, with scarcely an exception, the most backward and unenterprising in their respective counties; but even where the Act was accepted and the experiment tried, there was a failure to realize the results hoped for from the system. There was a failure to devise and carry out any well-considered plan for the preparation of teachers for their work, for the examination and selection of

teachers, for the grading and classification of schools, for the building of suitable school houses, and for properly furnishing them, for the supply of proper books and apparatus, and generally for a judicious financial management of the schools. Before Pennsylvania could fully realize the position in which she stood, educationally, and could awake to the perils surrounding her, it seemed necessary that the quickening and inspiring influence of Horace Mann in his magnificent twelve years' work, commencing in 1837, as the Secretary of the State Board of Education of Massachusetts, should summon our people to the great work which lay before them.

The haphazard method of conducting the educational work in our State became finally so notorious, its evils so patent, and the results so frightfully apparent in the failure to uplift the great body of our people to the intellectual and moral plane upon which it was universally recognized they should stand, that the Act of 1849 was passed, followed by that of 1854, the latter, without reference to the narrow and selfish views of those districts which had either failed to adopt the provisions of the Act of 1849 or had constantly endeavored to render abortive any sufficient results from that Act, provided as follows in the first section thereof:

"That a system of common school education be, and the same is hereby deemed, held and taken to be adopted according to the provisions of this Act, in all the counties of this Commonwealth, and every township, borough and city of this Commonwealth, or which shall be hereafter erected, shall constitute and be a school district subject to the provisions of this Act."

The school authorities of the State, as well as all careful students of the subject at that time, recognized as the most important feature of the Act those sections which provided for the election in each county of an officer to be called the County Superintendent, and which specified his powers and duties. The law required the person elected to this office to be of "literary and scientific acquirements, and of skill and experience in the art of teaching."

Many in this audience have from their personal knowledge had some conception of the magnitude and character of the duties which confronted the first officer in this county to be elected to that position. A majority of us who are here to-day have seen something of the gradual evolution and development of the system, and as pupils or teachers we may have been directly benefited by that development; but no one who was not familiar with the condition of the schools in our county prior to 1854, of the methods by which they were conducted, of the kind of teachers who were, in charge of them, of the facilities that were furnished in the way of books and apparatus to teachers and pupils, can have any adequate idea of the work that confronted the first county superintendent.

As I have intimated, there have always been good schools in this county. There have been men and women who, specially qualified by mental and moral endowment, filled with enthusiasm and working with tact and energy have been quoted and remembered from one generation to another as teachers of remarkable power; who have, in their respective communities, aided in preparing for the State good citizens, and in developing inherent genius in many young people who otherwise might have remained in comparative obscurity. But such schools were exceptional. They were sporadic. Their existence was but fitful.

The majority of the schools were taught by persons who were inadequately prepared, and who taught with no idea that teaching could or would be a profession. Most of the male teachers used the few months of winter to eke out a livelihood which an agricultural, mechanical or other pursuit would fail to properly provide for.

In not a few localities, teachers were appointed who were of intemperate habits and bad morals. The school houses to which the children of that day were sent were almost universally unfit in their appearance and architecture, in their lack of ventilation, in their dearth of conveniences both within and without, to provide for the proper moral as well as mental development of the child. The books were crude and meagre and uninteresting.

In certain localities the people insisted upon having good teachers, that their children should be sent to decent school buildings, and that whatever was necessary to supplement the work of an efficient teacher should be done; but there was a lack of method, of organization, of management, calculated to lift up the whole body of the schools and impress upon them throughout the marks of a vigorous, upward and progressive movement. Teachers were put in charge of schools either without an examination at all as to their qualifications, or in many cases with but the most superficial effort to ascertain what they knew and what they could do.

Naturally the members of the school boards would be unprepared, at least in the majority of cases, to conduct a thorough examination of those who might apply for the position of teacher in all of the branches to be taught. It was the custom in certain places, if some citizen had the reputation of knowing more of mathematics or geography or grammar than his fellows to request him to examine teachers in that subject; but no certificates were issued showing the results of any examination. The State authorities too complained that there was no proper accounting to the school department by the local school boards of the moneys appropriated by the State. There was no method by which accurate and reliable data could be obtained from these districts by the department; and it was alleged in many cases that there was a deliberate misappropriation by the local authorities of the moneys which had been intrusted to them, without there being any sufficient method on the part of the State in ascertaining where the difficulty

lay. Much prejudice, born of ignorance and selfishness, which had always been entertained toward the common school system, yet remained, with the disposition to thwart and hamper as far as possible all efforts to render the provisions of the new Act a success. Many people regarded the creation of the office of County Superintendent as entirely unnecessary, and the salary paid as a waste of the public money.

The outlook, therefore, for the first officers under this Act was one that promised nothing but hard work. The Act has outlined nearly all of the principal duties of the County Superintendent as they have existed from that day to this. He was required to examine teachers, and to see that no incompetent teacher was employed; to see that there should be taught in every district certain specified branches, as well as others that the Board of Directors might require; to visit all the schools as often as practicable, noting the course in methods of instruction in branches taught, and to give such directions in the art of teaching and the methods thereof in each school as to him, together with the Directors and controllers, should be deemed expedient and necessary. He was given power to annul certificates given to teachers upon sufficient cause, which annulment would result in the dismissal from his school of the teacher affected. It was directed that the annual reports of the several school districts should pass through his hands to the State Superintendent, and that he should make annually a report of the condition of the schools under his charge, suggesting improvements and furnishing such pertinent information as he might think fit. These were amongst the requirements imposed from the beginning. There have naturally

been added from time to time other duties, notably the holding of County Institutes, and increased powers in regard to the issuing and endorsing of certificates to teachers.

The first of the incumbents of the office had no beaten track to follow. While the office was not a new one in some portions of the county, yet here it was entirely untried; and those who were first elected found it necessary that they should blaze the way. Fortunately, the majority of the people in our county, and all our papers, recognized the necessity of selecting the best person who could be found. And this feeling was voiced in many ways, insisting that the person chosen should be a person of "scientific and literary acquirements and of skill and experience in the art of teaching." In some counties of the State the feeling of opposition to the office was manifested in the fixing of a salary which was purposely made so low as to discourage the efforts of the official chosen and to put a stigma of popular disapproval upon the officer and his work. The *New York Tribune* of that day, in noticing the salaries paid to County Superintendents of common schools of this State, makes the following caustic criticism: "Of course at such rates either, first, feeble men are appointed who will effect nothing, or, second, capable men are chosen who are not expected to devote their time to their work, or third, good men are expected to give their services for half their value for the sake of the cause. In either case the policy is shabby, short sighted and eminently Pennsylvanian. Chester, Montgomery and Bucks want men worth at least \$1,500 and cannot afford to take an inferior article. Only think of Dauphin, the metropolitan county, including a city of at least ten thousand inhabitants, appointing a County Superintendent of Schools at the magnificent sum of \$300 a year. No wonder the State is sold out three or four times a year by her Legislatures when public ignorance is thus cherished." The salaries in two of the counties were as low as \$100 a year.

Prior to the convention, called under the Act, which was fixed for the first Monday of June, 1854, there was much discussion in our county as to who should be chosen. Several teachers who had been successful either in the county or outside of it were named. When the day arrived those who were especially interested in education looked with intense anxiety for the result of the work of the convention. It was held in the old Court House, at Doylestown, June 5, 1854. Its president was a gentleman who then, as always afterward, manifested his interest in public school work, and did not allow the fact that he was a professional man to dull and narrow his interest in the mass of the people, but who gave the benefit of his eloquence to school work, in educational meeting and institute whenever called upon. The convention was presided over by a member of the Doylestown Borough School Board, George Lear, Esq. The first work of the convention was to determine the salary. The appointment of a committee to consider that question was followed by the nomination of candidates for the office. The list comprised Joseph Fell, of Buckingham; James Anderson, Bristol borough; Solomon Wright, Solebury; Dr. E. D. Buckman, Bristol borough; Mahlon Long, Warwick; Aaron B. Ivins, Philadelphia; James Robinson, New Hope; Eugene Smith, of Doylestown borough, and Silas Thompson. The names of Aaron B. Ivins, Mahlon Long and Eugene Smith were withdrawn. Before taking a vote the report of the Committee on Salary was presented, stating that the committee had agreed on \$1,000 as the salary of the Superintendent. Upon motion of George H. Michener, Esq., of Doylestown, that the report be adopted, the spirit of hostility to the system as well as to the office became at once manifest when a director from one of the most intelligent districts of the county arose and vigorously opposed the motion, stating that he was opposed to the law, and no good would result from the office, that the directors were

competent to manage the affairs of the schools, and that as the Legislature had given them power, by refusing a salary, to virtually annul the office, they should adopt his amendment, which provided for a salary of one dollar for each school district. The report of the committee was adopted, although the majority was not very large, the vote being 78 to 59.

Amongst the school directors constituting the convention were many men who have been prominent in the county, and who, both at that time and for years afterwards, manifested a lively interest in the advancement of common schools. Amongst them were such men as George Lear, Geo. H. Michener, Alfred H. Barher, John Clemens, of Doylestown borough; George McDowell, of Doylestown township; Thomas Janney, Dr. David Hutchinson, Edward H. Worstall of Newtown borough; Jacob Buckman, Mahlon B. Lintou, Daniel M. Hibbs, Newtown township; John E. Claxton, J. Watson Case, Isaiah Michener, Dr. Charles H. Mathews, of Buckingham; Moses Eastburn, Elias B. Fell, Chas. Magill, Robert Simpson, of Solebury; Dr. J. D. Mendehall, Bristol boro.; Jesse L. Stackhouse, Samuel Hulme, of Bristol township; John Buckman, Isaac Eyre, Pierson Mitchell, Jesse G. Webster, of Middletown; Joseph A. VanHorn, Barclay Knight, John Yardley, Richard Janney, Benjamin Beans, of Lower Makefield; Samuel Bradshaw, Josiah Rich, Isaac G. Thomas, of Plumstead; John H. Mathias, Elias Hartzell, Hilltown; Theodore S. Briggs, Henry Wynkoop, Wilson D. Large, Edward Q. Pool, of Upper Makefield; Isaac VanHorn, Northampton; Henry Frankenfield, Samuel E. Thatcher, of Haycock; Jacob A. Bachman, Peter Laubach, of Durham; William B. Kemmerer, Dr. Charles F. Meredith, of Richland; Mahlon Long, Eleazer Wilkinson and Nathaniel J. Rubinkam, Warwick; George Comfort, of Falls; Charles Kirk, Harman Yerkes, Joseph Barnsley, of Warminster.

The convention happily chose the right man for the place in selecting Joseph Fell of Buckingham. He possessed the requirements which the Act called for, as his range of knowledge was extended and he had for many years been a successful teacher. There are those here to day who can testify to the thoroughness and accuracy of his work in the school room. He had the happy faculty of arousing the interest of the pupil in the work before him, of stimulating his energies and of making the subject so attractive and full of interest that the child found it a pleasure to study. He had moreover the great tact which was so especially needed in the incumbent of this office.

As a consequence, in making his tours of the county, in examination of teachers, in visiting schools, in his intercourse with the school directors, in the discussion of methods and plans of work, in his appeals for progress, on all of these lines, he was able to so impress himself upon teachers, directors, and the people as well, with whom he came in contact, officially and socially, as to disarm in many cases hostility, to win converts to the cause and in all cases to command a respectful attention and consideration from those who had determined only to scoff.

A gentleman has told me, within a few days, of his experience when in 1856 he attended an examination in one of the upper townships with a view of applying for a certificate. He was young and confident, and fearful of entering upon the ordeal before him, but Mr. Fell, seeing him outside of the school house and ascertaining his purpose, encouraged him to make the effort, assuring him that he would probably meet with success. The timidity of the young man was dissipated, and he was thus enabled to approach the work with composure and to pass the examination creditably. He afterwards became one of the leading teachers of the county. This was doubtless but one of hundreds of cases wherein young people were encouraged by Mr. Fell's manner.

In visiting the school, he usually carried

with him such apparatus as it was practicable for him to take with him, and, as the schools at that time were almost bare of anything that could be used for illustration, the simple experiments and illustrations which he gave were interesting and suggestive to pupils and to teachers as well. This feature of his work resulted in improved teaching as well as caused the expenditure of money for needed maps, blackboards, charts, etc.

A lady now living in Illinois, who formerly taught in Plumstead township, writes to me, referring to Mr. Fell, "He had the happy faculty of entertaining the pupils and holding their attention from the least to the greatest, and if they knew anything he was sure to find it out. He had the same happy faculty in examining teachers."

Another of the successful teachers of that time, a lady of our county who has always maintained her interest in the public schools, writes me of the nervous dread which she felt over her first examination, but that Mr. Fell's genial manner made her feel entirely at ease before the examination commenced. She says, "He was a model Superintendent as well as a man. He possessed the faculty of making the whole school feel at ease in his presence. Would conduct most of the exercises himself, dwelling chiefly on fundamental principles, as he was a firm believer in the educational structure having a firm foundation. Always brought with him globes, charts, etc., which were not then furnished the schools, and would so entertain the pupils that his visits were always looked forward to with pleasure."

Some of Mr. Fell's experiences in visiting schools and in examining teachers were decidedly ludicrous. They illustrate very fairly the character of many of the schools, and the unfitness of the teachers in the matter of their scholastic knowledge and their disciplinary power. He described his experience in one school as follows:

"I found between 30 and 40 pupils of every grade of size from mere infants to young women. The door was open, a bucket of water having been emptied immediately in front of it making no small amount of mud to be tracked in the room. The floor was literally littered with shavings, chips, apple cores, etc. Two benches drawn up closely to the stove, in which there was sufficient fire to fill the house with smoke, were densely packed with interesting children who seemed much more intent upon the exercise of munching nuts, apples, and persimmons, than they were with the proper exercises of the school room. During recitations it was a common thing for the scholars to spring up on the top of the desk behind them and remain there until the class was done. One little chap was sitting in the middle of the floor busily engaged stuffing the chips with which he was surrounded into his shoes. Others were stretched at full length on the benches enjoying, if not a siesta, at least a comfortable lounge." "Another school was visited during the absence of the teacher. The children who were out playing followed me in and after arranging themselves to the best advantage for a perspective and eagerly scanning my person till curiosity satisfied commenced a very animated romp; mounting benches and desks, sans ceremony, leaving on them the footprints of mud and dust, which by the by evidently indicated familiarity with such labor. The teacher soon made his appearance. Apologizing for his absence beyond the usual hour of calling, on account of company, he thumped furiously against the sash of the window with his ruler. The well known sound had the effect of hurrying the scattered urchins pell mell into the school-room. One little chap immediately upon entering the door bawled out at the top of his voice, 'Teacher —, swore the hardest kind of a word while you was gone home for your dinner.' 'Hush! Take your seats. First class read.' 'Teacher, said another, you haven't called the roll

yet.' The master, thus being reminded of his duty, called the roll, after which he proceeded to business. The teacher seemed a good deal worried with his scholars, who were of the vivacious kind, and who, spurning the prosing sedentary mood, illustrated their admiration of social intercourse by frequent exchanges of friendly visits. Exclamations, 'John take your seat,' 'Thomas, what are you doing there?' 'Do' turn your faces the other way, and mind your business as you commonly do.' 'I will keep you in at intermission if you do so again,' were frequent. One youngster, perhaps a Scott or Jackson, took out his chestnut club and aiming it at a school-mate would halloo, "Bang," much to the amusement of his Lilliputian compeers. I came to the conclusion that if the children learned well here that the largest liberty was no drawback to the acquisition of knowledge." As illustrating the qualifications of some of the applicants for teachers' certificates Mr. Fell narrates the case of a young man who brought with him a note signed by the President and Secretary of the School Board stating that they were all "sadsfied" with him and wished him to teach their school. "I asked the applicant if he understood grammar and geography. He said he could 'go through' with them if required to teach them. He was then furnished with pen, ink and paper and desired to write the boundaries of Pennsylvania. He gave, 'Pennsylvania Bounded on North By West Indian on the South B Mediterranean Sea on the East By the Pacific ocean on the West By Indian Ocean.' Another case was that of a man who came with a note from an officer of a school board who answered the questions propounded to him upon different subjects with considerable readiness, but who in response to the question as to what he had been doing this season said he had been in jail seven months and just got out. The man was crazy and had made his escape from a mad-house to seek his fortune in Pennsylvania."

Mr. Fell's experience and success as a teacher, and his breadth of view as a school officer led him to become, very early in his term, a potent factor in Conventions and organizations looking towards the reconstruction of our school system. Prior to the Act of 1851 there had been few meetings of an educational character in the county having for their purpose the up-building of the schools. I find in 1852 or 1853 that there were two woods meetings held, one near Newtown and the other near Pineville at which parents, teachers, and the pupils of the schools were present, and to which lectures and instruction were given intended to stimulate activity in the educational work. There were also occasional informal gatherings of teachers; but all of these movements were desultory and fell far short of what was required to reach the mass of schools, and the majority of teachers. In July, 1851, on call of the State Superintendent of common schools, Mr. Fell attended the first State Convention of County Superintendents in the State at Harrisburg. The list of topics discussed is very suggestive as showing that there are some questions we can never finally settle. Thus history continually repeats itself. We find to-day the same topics troubling us and claiming much of the best thought of our educators. This list was as follows: 1st, Grades of teachers' certificates. 2nd, Mode of examining teachers. 3d, Grades of school. 4th, Visitation of schools. 5th, Teachers' Institutes. 6th, The best mode of interesting the directors. 7th, The best mode of engaging the cooperation of parents. 8th, Uniformity of books.

During the first year of his term we find that he recognized the necessity for an organization of the teachers of the whole county. On March 28, 1855, a meeting was called by him at Doylestown to consider the matter of a county organization. After a discussion of the question, which showed that the spirit existed which could build up and maintain such an organization, the meeting adopted a resolution of that excel-

rent man and citizen, Rev. S. M. Andrews, to the effect that it was expedient to form a Teachers' Institute of Bucks County. A committee was appointed to consider the matter, and an adjournment was had until June 1st of the same year. The committee then reported, and the meeting adopted the name of the Bucks County Educational Society. A two days session was held in the Court House at Doylestown which was full of interest. Professor John F. Stoddard and Professor Charles W. Sanders, whose names have been connected with text books in arithmetic and reading, familiar to many of us in our school days, were present and lectured. The work proved so profitable and was so much needed that another meeting of the Society was held, commencing on the 22nd of October in the same year, and continued for five days, which was attended by about 100 teachers, and at which the instructors aside from the local aid were Professors Stoddard, Sanders, and Grimshaw. Henry Chapman and George Lear received resolutions of thanks for addresses which they made before the Institute. The citizens of Doylestown entertained the lady teachers free of charge. I venture to say that there has been no greater zeal shown in the history of County Institutes in this county than was exhibited in these meetings, which laid the foundations of the organization which, voluntary at the outset, have been finally required by law to be held.

The beginning of the system of District Institutes had also its origin during Mr. Fell's term. Probably the most efficient one was held at Centreville, in the township of Buckingham. It was made up principally of the teachers of Buckingham and Solebury.

The necessity of Normal schools for the proper preparation of teachers naturally impressed itself upon the mind of our first County Superintendent as it did upon the minds of every student of our educational condition and needs. We therefore find Mr. Fell giving substantial aid to the first institution of the kind in our State, to wit, the school at Millersville, presided over in the beginning by Professor Stoddard, and which was afterwards wonderfully developed during the Principalship of James P. Wickersham, his successor. Many of the aspiring young people of our county went there on the opening of the school and for many years, and until the institution of other Normal schools had somewhat bettered, the contribution of Bucks county to the enrollment of Millersville's list of pupils was as strong as that of any county in the State. Mr. Fell encouraged our ambitious teachers to go there. In this connection, as recalling the wonderful growth from small beginnings achieved by this school, I cannot forbear to quote from the prophetic words of the Hon. Thos. H. Burrows delivered at the opening exercises of the school, held on the 6th of November, 1855. "But a few months ago and the words Normal School were never heard in our midst. And had they been, they would have elicited no more than a passing remark. Who beyond its own immediate bounds knew of Millersville? None. Its existence was only to be ascertained by reference to the map of the State. But her name has already gone forth, and in a few years, should this School meet with the success which we, its friends, so ardently desire for it, then will Millersville and its Normal School be household words on the lips of every citizen."

In the year previous to the adoption of the Act of 1854 the average salary paid male teachers per month in our County was \$21.57, and the females \$17.92. For the last of Mr. Fell's term the salaries were \$27.05 and \$23.33 respectively, an increase of more than 25 per cent. in the one case and more than 31 per cent. in the other.

We may never know the full influence of the work of the three years of Mr. Fell's term ending June, 1857. Examining teachers, encouraging the diffident, remonstrating with the careless, compelling the most

unfit to leave the work, traveling over the county encountering privation (and at the same time meeting with the hospitality for which our people are noted), urging upon directors and citizens their duty in the supply of those facilities so much needed, stirring up the public conscience through educational conferences and institutes, in private appeals and in contributions to the press of the county, in repelling assault upon the system by tactful administration of its principal office, in stirring up the ambition of teachers and leading pupils to believe that there was something more ahead of them than was to be found along the miserable lines already laid down for them. Such was some of the work he did.

At the expiration of his term he was not a candidate for re-election, and the office for the next three years went to another. A pure and upright man, a teacher of large experience, a citizen interested in all philanthropic movements, a native and resident of the same Buckingham Valley that had contributed the first incumbent of the office. William H. Johnson served for the period ending June 1860. The limits of this paper will not permit the discussion of the work during his administration. Mr. Fell, in the Convention which elected his successor, delivered an address calculated to quicken anew the spirit which he had succeeded so well in stirring into life. He laid down the work, but never lost his interest in it; attending Institutes, and always offering encouragement and advice as he had been wont to do. The people's schools owe him a debt of gratitude. In their development he must always be recognized as a large factor. He did his part towards bringing nearer that time referred to by his superior in office, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and at the same time the Superintendent of Common Schools, the Hon. Andrew G. Curtin, who said in his report in 1885, "When the common school system of Pennsylvania shall have unfolded its vast powers; when a corps of trained and educated teachers to supply all its demands shall have taken the field; when the text-books used in the schools shall be wisely selected, and the school-house built on the most approved model; when its protection and progress shall be the first object of the Government—then will all its mighty agencies to do good be felt; the public mind refined and enlightened; labor elevated; patriotism purified; our Republican form of Government fixed on an immutable basis, and the people crowned with its benefits and blessings."

HISTORICAL.

Unwritten Records--The Red Man's Bucks County.

A Paper by Henry C. Mercer, Esq., Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society at Wolf Rocks, Buckingham, July 16th, 1895.

We have been meeting thus for years to rescue from oblivion, facts in that part of the Delaware Valley known as Bucks county. Sometimes I am afraid that we will exhaust the subject, for we only have some 250 years to talk about. Back of that we find ourselves lost in the great forest, a green shadow covering the whole eastern half of the North Ameri-

can Continent, from Florida to Hudson's Bay, from Louisiana to Labrador. On the side of a hill like this, where the wood-cutter works at a disadvantage, we try to imagine what it was, but the heaviest trees and their fallen, rotting trunks are cut and gone. Many sounds of the universal woods have ceased. Plants have varied their habits. A change has come over the animals and birds. But this immense woodland, larger than that crossed by Stanley in darkest Africa, has left us many insects and reptiles and flowers, many streams and a soil rich for a long time without cultivation. Because of it I believe there is a louder noise of frogs and beetles upon a summer night here than anywhere in the Old World. A study of the turn of fate that destroyed the fiercer and multiplied the gentler animals recalls to the naturalist this great sea of trees which we know well sets a mysterious limit to all our historical records. What happened for centuries in its shadow? Who knows? There was John Smith at Jamestown in 1607, Hudson at Manhattan in 1609, De Vries on the Delaware in 1643, but what back of that? Columbus in 1492, and then what? Our history is the story of transplanted Europe, and must long remain so. The chronicle of America is yet hidden under this forest gloom. Once walk into the shade alone and listen to the echoes. Books guide us no more. We have left behind us the annals of Penn, the struggles of the pioneers, even the founding of a new nation for the sake of a knowledge that no one has yet grasped. We look for signs on the ground, upon the rocks and by the river side, fascinated by questions that lose interest where books and histories begin.

Fifty years ago the European student stepped over the boundary line of history, left Herodotus and Tacitus and Egypt and Assyria and Greece behind to dig in caves and find traces of a man who, it is said, hunted the mammoth in France and saw the woolly rhinoceros in England, but let us repeat it that to get behind the record here, so as to use the word pre-historic, we have only to go back three centuries at most. Then we are in the pre-Columbian darkness.

The great question is—who were the thousands of tribes, with several scores or hundreds of different linguistic stocks, more or less red and more or less alike, that Columbus found? Where did they come from? Did they emigrate hither well equipped with primitive arts, or develop them on the spot? And in answer to the question, which a child asks when it points to a grooved stone axe in a museum, and says, "How old is it?" we can hardly more than say that we do not know. But something has been learned in the last five years. After much digging and searching some lights glimmer on the subject in this eastern part of the United States.

If we can account in any way for the Leni-Lenape, found here in the Delaware Valley, something has been done.

THE LENNI-LENAPE.

When we sum up all that we know we find that the Leni-Lenape or Delaware Indian, found at Manhattan by Hudson in 1609, and here by De Vries and Campanius in 1631 and 1643, were not very

different from other Indians. Though one class of students holds that all Indians belong to one parent stock; another contends for different stocks, both leaving out the Eskimo, as a race apart. We know that Penn found the Lenape here, that they had a confederacy of related tribes, that they were cheated out of lands at Wrightstown, and in consequence helped to massacre and torture our ancestors at Wyoming, under the leadership of a ferocious woman called Queen Esther, and we know now that they were related in language to tribes in the far West, like the Sioux. When we gather their relics we soon come to the end of the list. All the wood and skin and basket work and most of the bone is gone. We have a few chipped blades, grooved stone axes and a curious catalogue of fantastic stones used in religious ceremonies. That is all. And there is nothing to differentiate the collection from the general run of "Indian relics" all over the United States. We are not dealing, therefore, with an isolated or unique race, but only with one Indian family, whose character is about the same as that of all the others, Mound Builders included.

MOUNDS.

The Lenape built three mounds, six to eight feet high, at Durham, which William Walters ploughed down in 1853-55. I opened one and saw remains of about 50, not much larger than Christian graves along Saucon creek. There is a row of little ones on Rattlesnake Hill, at Durham. One has been described to me near Mahanoy, another near West Chester, and if the so-called Giant's Grave in Solebury is not a loam-covered rock, it may be of Lenape make. Without it, however, we now know that they could build mounds like the Ohio tribes, though they very rarely did it.

GRAVES.

The first immigrants said that the Lenape buried their dead in the ground, and in the last three years Mr. Ernest Volk has found many such burials at Trenton. Though I have found none I hear of others near Atlantic City and in the river sands at Taylorsville, at Durham, below the Gap and at Minnisink. There is a graveyard near Doylestown, according to a writer in "Hazard's Register."

The chiet Tammanend it seems was buried on Prospect Hill about 1750. Had the Indians made mounds or marks at their graves, we should find them easier. Had the holes been shallow we should plough up more skeletons. Therefore we are left to suppose either that they buried below plough-depth, that the bones have all decayed, which, could hardly be true in all of our soils, or that they cremated the bodies or the bones after drying off the flesh, like the Nanticookes on the east shore of Maryland. Mr. Lambach showed me stones standing at

Sallows mill, near Durham, supposed by him to mark the site of an ancient crematory, and he and I found curious paved areas, suggesting ovens, at Glen Gardner, New Jersey, near Erwinna, on the Hexankopt, and at the Turk dam. There were traces of decomposed animal matter at some of these places, but no human

bones; and if corpses or skeletons had been burnt there, where were the teeth? We found charcoal in the chinks between the stones, yet that means little when we realize that underbrush has been burnt and woods fired all over the country, so that you can dig up bits of charcoal in almost any field or grove.

IMPLEMENTS.

Arrow heads ought not to be worth five cents apiece. They are a drug in the market. Together with the other stone tools they have been figured and discussed over and over again. Dr. Abbott describes the whole range of Lenape stone work in his "Primitive Industry," but other things have been found since the book was written, and I have summed up elsewhere every published account of eye witnesses of the manufacture of chipped blades, showing how the Indians made them, in five ways, by (a) flaking by direct percussion with stone hammers; (b) by indirect percussion, or hammering on punches; (c) by direct pressure with a pointed bone; (d) by impulsive pressure, or pressure aided by a blow, and (e) by pressure aided by heat.

There are a few grooved stone axes in Australia and you find grooved hammers in Spain and Italy, but no one has picked up a grooved axe in Europe. They are scattered all over North and South America, and I saw them in Madrid from Uruguay and the Argentine. About three years ago Mr. Maguire, of Washington, showed that you can easily make one with one of the familiar pitted pebbles—common at Indian village sites—held fast between the thumb and second finger, so as to strike about 100 blows to the minute. Chipping, polishing and drilling holes with hollow reeds and wet sand covers most of the stone work, and made all the hoes, scrapers, drills, flake knives, teshoas, pestles, mortars, hammerstones, bannerstones and gorgets in every boy's collection, but as we are not trying to exhaust the subject we will speak of things less known.

SHELL HEAPS.

Mounds of oyster and clam shells, mixed with charcoal, rise from the low salt swamps by the sea along the New Jersey coast. Some standing in the water look old, and as if the land must have sunk since they were formed. Theory supposes them of great antiquity and made by a race of people who disappeared before the Indian came. Savages eating molluscs at one spot produce such heaps, which I have examined in Maine and Maryland, but not in New Jersey. Now we know, through the ancestors of Mr. S. P. Preston, of Lumberville, that the Lenape remnant, in the last century, walked from Bucks county to the Atlantic coast at certain seasons to eat clams and so form shell heaps near New Brunswick. The heaps would grow quickly and whether the Indians and their ancestors made all the deposits along the coast is not certain. If they did we are done with the mystery of the New Jersey shell heaps, and the notion of their immense antiquity.

BLADE MATERIAL.

Like all other American Indians, the Lenape were found in the stone age. They could not melt metals. When they used

copper they hammered it cold. As is our iron so was their stone, a thing more important to them in the scale of needs than railroads, electricity, steamboats, gunpowder or perhaps even printing are to us. For long periods in man's unknown past the craft of making stone tools out-rivalled everything else. Most of the tools were chipped and because not every stone would chip, those that did were hunted for and valued. The Lenape, and all his red kinsfolk prized the flakeable, pointed, smooth-grained jasper. With pointed poles, stone spades, and by means of heat they dug hundreds of holes into a vein of it which Mr. Berlin, Mr. Laubach and myself discovered three years ago running along the Lehigh hills, from Durham to Reading. It is worth a half day's drive from here, or a less journey on a bicycle, to see these pits, some forty feet deep originally, at Vera Cruz and Macungie, near Allentown—a sight nearly as astonishing as that of the famous mounds at Newark or Marietta. I have tried to beg men of means in Philadelphia to buy the field that encloses one of these marvels at Vera Cruz before the plough touches it and it is lost, and I have begged lovers of nature to go and see it, but unfortunately in vain.

The Lenape could not have been in this region a week before they began to hunt workable stone. Almost as important as jasper and probably discovered by them in this region before it, was the metamorphosed slate called argillite. To get it, I discovered in 1892 that they had cut a dozen or more trenches along the hillside at Gaddis' run at Point Pleasant, and worked upon a solid cliff on the Neshaung.

This new information is not contained in any history. Five years ago no student had thought of aboriginal blade quarries, and the boys who collect arrowheads do not yet know where to look for them. Nevertheless these strange stony pits throw a flood of light upon the past. They show that the Lenape, like all the other Indians, were geologists, and in the shade of the old forest had probably scrutinized the rocks in the Delaware Valley as they have been scrutinized over every acre of ground between Maine and Mississippi.

Be not surprised, therefore, to learn that the Red Man had seen coal, though he did not use it, and could find galena ore and hematite before the white man came. After white blacksmiths had shown the Lenape the use of anthracite they may have dug some lumps for Peter Keller, at a secret mine somewhere along Tohickon creek, as the story goes. But, notwithstanding the traditions current in Bucks county, up the Delaware and down the Susquehanna I do not believe the legend of their coming out of the wood with armfuls of pure lead for bullet-moulding. Lead, save in the minute films, sometimes picked up in Wisconsin, is not found pure, and galena ore is a very different thing and will not do for bullets until it is smelted, at a temperature of about 1200 Centigrade.

Any Indian tool made of a stone not indigenous had to be carried from a distance. A farmer near West Chester showed me an arrowhead of volcanic glass or obsidian found in his field, and if his story was true and there was no trick, the Lenape must have got it from Mexico or the Yellowstone Park. They

picked up quartzite at many points on the surface of the sea-board country and mined rhyolite on the southern Susquehanna. I discovered an ancient chert digging in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, and soon found that the Indians had continually used rolled stones on the river beaches, just as I saw where they had chipped jasper pebbles into arrowheads on the Chesapeake shore. Then it was easy to believe as I walked up and down these strands that by following up the desirable pebbles to the parent rock, from which the stream had torn and borne them, the inland mines above mentioned were discovered by Indians, at a time when the whole country was obscured by forest. Going up the Delaware stream Argillite pebbles cease about Frenchtown, and if you follow them as a dog would a trail you can walk straight from Bristol to the Indian mine on Gaddis' run. Black chert runs far up the river, and any boy who collects arrowheads can on his holiday help science by tracing northward for these pebbles as far as they will lead him. Somewhere near the Gap of the Delaware or Lehigh, some creek black with them will give him the clue, and he will find the quarry where most of the black arrowheads were worked out of the solid rock. Perhaps I had better not rouse any boy's curiosity with speculations about soapstone and mica, hematite, lead and precious stones. Let him remember that no one knows much as yet, and that the most wonderful secrets of the old forest lie still buried in the ground, waiting for him or me or anyone who knows how to search.

MAIZE.

As far as we now know Zea-mais-maiz, as the Arawakas, of South America, call it—Indian corn, was one of the great surprises of the New World. The Spanish discoverers of the 16th century had never seen or heard of it when they found the Indians growing and eating it all over America. There is a story that Rifaud, a Frenchman, found maize in an Egyptian tomb, and it might be true if Dr. Le Plonglon's idea is correct that the Egyptians came from maize-growing Yucatan, but Candolle, the great Italian botanist, thinks that Rifaud was tricked by an Arab. Soon after the Spaniards took maize to Spain it was seen growing near Seville in 1524. Then it reached

Italy, where the natives make their polenta mush of it, and to Turkey, Egypt, Hungary, France and Austria. It does not thrive in cloudy England, but Stanley found it in the Congo Forest. In Europe and the Orient not one of the strange names given it refer to America, and few realize that the widespread grain, like the turkey, the potato and the tobacco pipe came from America. What a lavish, noble, poetic plant it is! A little genius or a touch of originality at World's Fair, at Chicago, would have ordered a whole building to be devoted to the strange history of this beautiful gift of the Red Man to the world.

The Central Americans lived on it almost entirely. Every stone pestle and mortar found in the Delaware Valley proves no less surely that the Lenape grew it than does their word pone, borrowed into English and meaning

corn bread, such as you get in Virginia. There the negroes learned how to make their hoe-and-ash-cakes from Indians, whom they had seen pounding dry or parched grains on stone and cooking the meal and water cakes in the hot embers of open fires.

If you let corn run wild here it will die out, because the grains freeze in winter and therefore Prof. Harschberger, of the University of Pennsylvania, thinks that it came as a wild plant from Mexico, when it might reproduce itself without help. Whatever was done to husband the plant for food up to 1500 the Indians did. The ancient cobs from Peruvian tombs are small, like those from Ohio mounds, and show how cultivation has helped the plant. The Zunis have outdone all other gardeners by producing at least five beautiful colored varieties—yellow, blue, white, red and black—which they make into sacred breads and use in ceremonies, as when they scatter meal on rattlesnakes in the horrible snake dance. If we could go out into the Mexican wilderness and find the wild plant we should know better what changes cultivation has made, but notwithstanding reports and experiments we are not yet certain that the maize brought by Professor Duges from Mexico in 1888 and planted in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Philadelphia, which Humboldt told me he found on the Mexican plateau 2 years ago, is the true original of the great grain. The Lenape stored corn in three or four still visible pits at Dyerstown and again, according to W. J. Buck at a place on the Pennypack. De Soto says that he walked through Indian maize fields three leagues long. La Salle appropriated a lot of maize from an underground cache in an old Illinois village, and our armies destroyed great quantities of stored maize when ravaging Indian towns in the Northeast. To maize we no doubt owe the existence of another series of curious landmarks in Bucks county, as yet unvisited, unmentioned and unheard of. These are the mysterious clearings in original tracts of woodland known as "Indian fields." It is probable that the Lenape, by charring the trunks of blazed and dry trees, and then cutting them down with stone axes, made the old clearing of about seven acres once conspicuous on the river bank above Durham Cave. I understand that there is one of these fields very near us on the slope of this mountain. I saw another on Jericho Hill, and one near Mozart. Mr. Laubach has found one on Buckwampun, and a few individuals at Jamison's Corner have seen or heard of the ancient opening in the woods on Fish Run, hardly half a mile from the toll gate.

We might think that the Lenape had had villages at these spots, but if so more relics would be found. I can find none in the open heath in Buckman & Watson's woodland, west of Wrightstown, one of the most remarkable places in Bucks county. Therefore I cannot agree with the late Josiah B. Smith, of Newtown, who thought it the site of an Indian town, corruptly called Playwicky, in Penn's deed of 1682.

INDIAN VILLAGE SITES.

If the Camera Club would take a sug-

gestion might it not be well to search for the topographical features described in this deed, now hanging in the fire-proof room of the Historical Society of Philadelphia. The parchment is the very beginning of history in Bucks county, and speaks of landmarks that refer back into an unknown time. A mountain, a place called Mackkeerikitton, a stream called Towsissink, a corner spruce marked with the letter P, a white oak with another P, by a spring, and a path close by leading to an Indian town called Playwicky. These places marked the upper boundary of the first part of Bucks county that the Indians yielded to the white man. Hence the line from which Marshall and the walkers of 1737 started or ought to have started. Between Wrightstown Meeting House and the Delaware these landmarks existed or still exist. There is a whole lore upon the subject, and strange to say some chance of still finding the white oak with the letter P even yet under its bark, a notable tree in 1682. Could the American Forestry Congress hold a meeting at any more interesting spot? John Watson, surveyor of Bucks county in 1756, and the late Josiah B. Smith, of Newtown, were the only two persons who, to my knowledge, became fascinated with the puzzle of these lost landmarks. Would that the Camera Club and all who love to turn their backs upon a desk might catch their enthusiasm. As to Playwicky, a manuscript foot note of John Watson, which Mr. Smith never saw, says that it was near Philip Draket's, below Heaton's mill; in other words, somewhere along Mill creek, in Southampton or Northampton township, below Rocksville, but I looked in vain for the signs of a village where they should have been in that region, and concluded that the hearths and relics of Playwicky lie buried under the leaves of some woodland not yet cleared, or that I have carried away baskets full of chipped stones from the real site without knowing its name.

A map of the lower valley region with the recently discovered village sites marked on it would show that they follow the streams. That they lie often at the mouth of a confluent, on south-facing slopes, warm in winter and that there is little use looking for them anywhere else. The larger the stream the larger the village, while the sites at springs are the smallest of all, from which we infer that the village builders entered the country by its streams, reaching last the head waters or springs. When important trails had been worn through the forest villages may have sprung up with reference to them, but until that time the stream—itsself a natural highway and hunting trail, occasioned the village.

I would divide, therefore, habitation sites in this region into three classes: (1) camp sites at springs or on trails, smallest and most modern; (2) villages on the larger tributaries of the Delaware, older and larger; (3) towns on the Delaware proper, oldest and largest of all. One out of every five farms in the county ought to show a site of the first-class, like that on the old Hausell farm near Mechanicsville, or that close to Dyerstown, or that on the Montaine farm at Johnsville. The large village, from which Dr. Michener, of Colmar, must have gathered a bushel of relics, belongs to the second category. So does that at Dark

Hollow, or the other at Graeme Park on the Little Neshaminy, while the last class of forgotten villages run along the whole Delaware Valley from Trenton to the Lehigh, as for instance at Lower Black's Eddy, Taylorsville, Hall's Island and Gallows Run.

When we have hunted over these sites we have reached the end of our collection of arrowheads and confront a much larger subject. All these remains of one kind and class might be the handiwork of the Lenape. In Europe you would have found on one hand the ruins of a city with coins and iron; on the other the floor of a cave bedded with chipped stone tools, and nearby possibly barrows, cromlecs or dolmens, marking the graves of people who used bronze. Here there is no such variety and distinction. Everything on the surface repeats its self over and over again and we might be half inclined to refer it all to the Lenape. But was there no man here before Win. Penn's Indian? A Lenape told the Rev. Charles Beatty, in 1767, that his people had come to the Delaware, according to a bead tally in 1397. The painted stick chronicle of the Delaware, preserved by them for centuries and rescued from destruction by Rafessque and Dr. Brinton, gives about the same date as does a native tradition of the same kind collected by Heckewelder, all of which means that the Lenape only came here when Richard II was ruling in England, but these accounts say that the pioneer Indians found the country deserted, and this is very important. Had no man been here before? Shall we go back over geological epochs until there is no use looking further to find this region (and with it we must infer the whole Middle Atlantic coast) untrodden by human foot? There is a way of answering this question without the help of legends. If man was here he left his trace, somewhere he built a fire, somewhere dropped a chip of stone or fragment of bone to tell the tale. And at this point digging has professed to startle us with a new discovery.

THE MAN OF THE TRENTON GRAVELS.

It is hard to dig trencher deep enough for the student and lucky when others dig them for him. The Pennsylvania railroad cut an immense pit behind the city of Trenton into a gravel bank, the very sight of which might inspire any one with a love of geology. It was washed there, for you can get into the great pit and see the same kind of stratified bands that water is seen to make in gutter sand when you slice it and look at the section, but what kind of a freshet? A freshet that overtopped the State House at Trenton and foamed against the Point Pleasant hill tops, a roaring deluge filling the whole valley with sand and stones, and caused by one of the wonderful phenomena of the world's history if it came as geologists say from the meltings of the great glacier, that continental crust of ice that crossed the valley like a high wall at Belvidere ran westward to the Rocky mountains and northward to the Pole. Whatever was originally in his sand, therefore, was as old as the freshet, and when Dr. C. C. Abbott said that he found chipped tools of stone manufactured by man and since called

turtle-backs, bedded between the layers of gravel in this pit it surprised the scientific world.

Other students have gone to Trenton again and again and failed to find a "turtle-back" in place, and for the last two or three years a fierce dispute has raged between those who assert and deny that Dr. Abbott was mistaken. These turtle-backs resemble in shape very ancient chipped stones found in Europe, and that fact was first recognized when Dr. Abbott found them in 1885. Then, strange to say, nobody knew that the Lenape and all other modern Indians, had continually produced the same kind of chipped stones.

That new knowledge came from the study of the blade quarries above mentioned. There the Indians had mined masses of native rock, and when chipping it into blades had continually produced "wasters" or failures, half-blocked out pieces that would not thin down. Thousands of these lay scattered about the Gaddis Run mines above mentioned, made probably somewhere in the 15th or 16th century, rather than ten or twelve thousand years ago. As we soon found that you could pick "turtlebacks" up at all the village sites on the Delaware there was no reason why you could not have found them at the village site now occupied by Trenton and originally overlying the top of the gravel pit where the first turtlebacks were found. For these reasons the opponents of Dr. Abbot said that his specimens were not found in place in the gravel, but had slipped down the banks from the Indian layer above—that they were not finished tools of the ancient ice men, but half-finished castaways of the modern Lenni-Lenape. To continually fail to find turtlebacks is negative evidence, yet it grows stronger. Nevertheless, whoever goes to Trenton and pulls another specimen out of the freshly cut bank, where there is no downsiding, will settle the question, but he cannot have too many witnesses.

Though no more turtlebacks seemed to be discovered in the Trenton pits, there are other ways at getting at the truth. If a savage, little better than the ape, sat on the cold river beaches chipping turtlebacks 12,000 years ago we ought to find his traces somewhere else. There is a sand bank high above the canal at the mouth of Fry's Run in Northampton county that by position looks at first sight as old as the Trenton bank, but when Mr. Laubach had shown me chips, charcoal and hammerstones buried deep in it, we learned from Mr. Salisbury, of the New Jersey survey, that it was modern after all. High as it is, the true glacial washings were seen much higher. The river bending sharply there might have overwhelmed the bank, just as when the so-called "punkin" freshet that filled the canal with sand and washed away Whip-poor-will Island, near by, lapped the bottom of it. The chips, therefore, might have been made by Lenape Indians. You can find fire sites upon an old surface about two feet below the present bank top on Marshall's Island, and I discovered after digging a deep trench, that there was a lower village layer below the well-known surface village at Lower Black's Eddy. But these levels are entirely at the mercy of freshets that

build and unbuild banks, and that fact destroys their value as tests of age.

This underplaced village site at Lower Black's Eddy is the oldest human traces that I have been able to find in the Delaware Valley and if I give up the Trenton gravel specimens it is all I have left. Who inhabited it? Was its denizen a predecessor of the Indian, was he the Trenton gravel man himself, or was he only the first Lenape immigrant? To these questions I can say that no extinct animal bones were found to give a date to the lower hearths. The lower village man made pottery, which the ice men were supposed not to be able to do. He used more argillite than jasper. His arrows and spears were very narrow and long, but that does not seem evidence enough to me to prove, as has been urged, that he was an Eskimo. Until other evidence is in, the reasonable supposition seems that he was the first coming Lenape pioneer in the 15th century.

CAVES.

Early man is supposed to have visited habitable caves when he saw them. If so a cave is a place where you can gather at one spot and with least trouble traces of every people that inhabited its neighborhood in the past. Visiting it they left refuse layers on its floor, and you cut through these culture bands to find, by necessity, the latest on the top and the oldest on the bottom.

The late Hilborn T. Cresson said he found a cave on Naaman's Creek, containing a series of layers that began with the Indian and went back to the Trenton man, but I have as yet found no such cave anywhere in the Eastern United States or Central America. The Indian House, a rock shelter on Tohickon Creek, contained only a film of Lenape refuse no older than that seen at any village site. The cave on the Neshaminy, near Worthington's mill, is a mere chink unfit for habitation like the Doan's cave near Cassiday's Rocks on the Tohickon, or the shelter near the Wildonger farm in Tinicum. Mr. Paret dug bone needles, an argillite blade and the bones of the peccary, bison and giant beaver from Hartman's cave, near Stroudsburg, but was not certain that they were associated together in the same layer. The great room at Durham cave, close to the river and easy of access, must needs have contained the whole truth, but to the despair of the students the Durham Iron Company blasted down its roof and if they did not destroy its floor covered it with tons of rubbish. I found a bone of the extinct peccary in one of its ceiling cranies, called Queen Esther's chamber, but there was no human hearth to associate it with. On the Schuylkill, the Port Kennedy cave, at which I have worked nearly two months, the most remarkable exposure of sloth, horse, mastodon, peccary and tapir bones in Eastern North America would settle the question of human antiquity in the East if it contained man, but thus far I have found no trace of his presence there, and much hunting at other places and from many points of view repeats the inference that in Eastern America man's remains are modern when compared with the relics of Europe, and that before the Indian there was no human inhabitant.

THE LENAPE STONE.

The age test of extinct animal bones does not help us as much as we might think when we reflect that the word extinct means "not observed by white men for the last 300 years," but in Europe the name like the word "prehistoric," carries us back 2 millenniums at once. Nevertheless Port Kennedy and other such deposits will help science to learn which of these older animals survived longest and fixed relative dates. Meanwhile we are not sure that a few mammoths, whose bones were found undecomposed on the surface at Big Bone Licks in the last century, did not straggle along into comparatively recent times. This would be the true meaning of the Lenape stone, which has not yet had its proper hearing before science. Bernard Hansell found, after an interval of nine years, two fragments of a gorget with a picture scratched upon it in Indian style, representing sun, moon, stars and lightning and men fighting the hairy mammoth. When Colonel Paxson, its present owner, and Captain Bailey presented it to archaeologists and I tried to give the evidence in a pamphlet, objections were urged against it which have succeeded in ruling it out as a record. The chief of these the one that seems to have prevented further examination, was that urged by Dr. Daniel G. Brinton, who said that the outlines represented a group and that Lenape Indians could not draw groups. That its notion of the brute, human and Divine types placed side by side was above Indian conception, that the lightning was suspicious and the sun with divergent rays doubtful, that the stone lacked the patina of age, that the lines were steel cut and that a clever fabricator would have used aboriginal tools, to which I answered that we have no adequate library of Lenape pictographs with which to compare this stone, or by which to gauge the Eastern Indians' power of drawing groups, as the modern Sioux draws groups on buffalo robes, fix a limit to his æsthetic conceptions, or make up our minds about lightning and suns with rays. The patina was gone because Colonel Paxson and I unwittingly washed and scrubbed it off, I cannot believe in the power of discriminating steel cut lines from lines made from beaver teeth or arrow-heads in this case. Under the circumstances it is beyond me. Mr. Wadsworth, lithologist at Cambridge, Mass., agreed with Dr. Brinton about the steel-cut look of the lines, but Mr. Iddings, of the U. S. Coast Survey, said that he did not know whether such discrimination were possible after scrubbing. I agree with him and go perhaps a little farther. After experiments with aboriginal scratching tools, blunt awls and scissors and scrubbing brush on similar pieces of slate I came to the conclusion that it would be unreasonable to assert that the Lenape stone lines were steel cut.

The mammoth outline has been said to resemble an etching of the same animal found in one of the French caves and published in Dana's Handbook of Geology, but I do not see the likeness. The stone is unique, and aboriginal drawings of any kind are exceedingly rare. This is against the specimen, though not a final objection. A band of Lenape at the Big Bone Licks, in Kentucky, when

asked the meaning of the mammoth bones lying there, told the Governor of Virginia their legend of a great devastating animal destroyed by lightning. The specimen is too interesting not to compel us to have a theory about it if we disbelieve its authenticity. If the Indians did not make the stone, why the lightning? What conceivable connection has lightning with a mammoth in the mind of any possible white fabricator unless he knew of this legend, whose relation to the stone, I believe, I was the first to discover? Other evidence has come in for the Lenape stone, and Dr. Brinton's case should not be regarded as complete until he has examined and given an opinion on the three other carved stones found on the Hansell farm. Are they forgeries, too?

They have not been scrubbed and are ready for the microscope. Will anybody shrug his shoulders and say that Dr. Brinton has settled the question until they are accounted for? Ten years have passed. I have watched and hunted for suspicions in vain, welcoming all criticism and taking all contradiction as a matter of course. To me the stone seems too important to let individual feelings intrude between it and the light. There is no libel in the case; but only the pros and cons that beset the truth. Provided you are hunting it consider them all. Use any words you please, forgery included. No one need look unutterable things. The cool scientific frame of mind let us hold fast upon, as the only frame of mind that prevails here. I was convinced beyond a reasonable doubt ten years ago. And after weighing everything that could be weighed and doubting everything that could be doubted I cannot find the evidence to change my opinion.

HISTORICAL.

John Ross and the Ross Family.

A Paper Read by Judge Harman Yerkes,
Before the Midwinter Meeting of the
Bucks County Historical Society, on
January 21st, 1896.

One hundred and six years have elapsed since a somewhat radical change in our Constitution provided that Law Judges should preside over our county Courts. In that period we have had twelve President Judges—James Biddle, John D. Coxe, William Tilgman, Bird Wilson, John Ross, John Fox, Thomas Burnside, David Krause, Daniel M. Smyser, Henry Chapman, Henry P. Ross and Richard Watson.

If a people may be judged of their civilization and progress by their laws and the faithful execution thereof, then the free-men of Bucks are entitled to occupy the first rank among their fellows. No country of the world can boast of a fairer

system of laws than Pennsylvania has possessed since William Penn first gave us his beneficent code, and the records of these men who administered the law here are excelled by none for purity, integrity and fidelity to duty.

It so happens that for the first time in this more than a century, the occupant of the bench finds himself alone and without a single one of his honored predecessors among the living to whom to turn, in any great emergency, for counsel and advice. They all sleep among our honored dead, revered for the good they did and secure in that fame which purity of life and honorable public service only can win.

But the story of their deeds and of the lives they lived, which gave them their exalted places in the estimation of their fellow men, has been but partially told, if told at all. If I, who succeed them and but too imperfectly discharge the duties of the office they so honored, can by a simple narrative of the more prominent events of their lives inspire a single additional spark of gratitude and honor to their memory from those upon whose county they shed so much lustre, I shall feel amply repaid for the little labor required of me, and will but discharge a duty I owe them for the illustrious and worthy example they have left for their successors to emulate.

In a former paper I referred briefly to James Biddle, John D. Cox and William Tilghman, and with some particularity traced the honorable and exceptionally successful and pure life of Bird Wilson.

The first native of Bucks county to hold the office of President Judge of her Courts since the adoption of the constitution of 1790 was John Ross, appointed January, 1818. At the time of his appointment he was 48 years of age, seven years the senior of Bird Wilson, his retiring predecessor who had occupied the bench for twelve years and who was consequently the youngest Judge who ever sat upon our bench. To form a correct measure of the capacity of a public man it is essential to have some knowledge of his antecedents, his family and their influence, and of the obstacles and surroundings through which he may have reached and maintained his place.

On June 8, 1737, John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, by their patent conveyed a tract of upwards of two hundred acres of land in Solebury township to Thomas Ross. The ancestors of this Thomas Ross were Scotch, but they settled in County Tyrone, Ireland, where Thomas was born in 1703. At the age of 20 he immigrated to Bucks county, accompanied by his sister Elizabeth, who afterwards married Thomas Bye. Her descendants are quite numerous.

Thomas Ross took up his abode upon that portion of Penn's Manor of Highlands lying in what is now Solebury township. The community in which he settled was composed almost exclusively of Friends. Soon after his arrival he requested that he might join the Wrightstown Meeting, and the record of the Monthly Meeting held at Buckingham shows that on the Third-day of First-month, 1730, "the meeting, after some cold consideration, condescended to accept him" "so far as his life and conversation shall correspond with the truth he desires to join himself to."

In 1731 he and Keslah Wilkinson twice

declared their intentions of marriage before the meeting, were passed, and Abraham Chapman and James Harker were appointed a committee to attend the marriage. At a monthly meeting at Wrightstown Sixth-month 3d, 1731, the committee reported that the marriage was "decently accomplished." Keslah Wilkinson was a daughter of Elisha Wilkinson and sister to Colonel Elisha Wilkinson, of Buckingham. The record of his testimony before the Wrightstown Monthly Meeting shows that "Thomas Ross was born in 1703 in the County of Tyrone in Ireland, descended of reputable parents, members of the Episcopal Church, and received a religious education. Coming into America about the twentieth year of his age and settling within the limits of Buckingham Monthly Meeting, he soon afterward became convinced of the principles of truth as professed by the Friends."

He immediately took an active interest in religious instruction and became a noted minister of the Society. In 1784 he sailed for Europe on a religious mission in company with a number of Friends. Rebecca Jones, of Philadelphia, was of the number. She was a convert from the Church of England also, and became a teacher and preacher of the Quaker sect. The record of her absence on this mission recites: "Granted a certificate by the Monthly and Select Meeting, 1784, to visit Great Britain. Embarked at New Castle on board the ship Commerce, Capt. Thomas Luxton commander, 25. of 4th-mo., 1784, in company with my valued friends Thomas Ross, Samuel Emlen and son Samuel, George and Sarah Dillwyn and Mchitable Jenkins, all intending for Great Britain."

General Davis in his history relates that the party were anxious to reach their destination in time for the Yearly Meeting, but the Captain said it was impossible. One day, while Mr. Ross was seated beside Rebecca Jones, he turned and said to her, "Rebecca, canst thou keep a secret?" She replied that she could, when he added, "We shall reach England this day two weeks," in time for the yearly meeting. On the morning of the appointed day one of the Friends, who was keeping a sharp lookout, saw land. The Captain admitted that had it not been for the lookout, encouraged by the words of Friend Ross, his vessel would have gone upon the rocks.

No doubt the prophecy was made as a joke or inspired by a buoyant hope.

Rebecca Jones returned to America in 1788, but Thomas Ross did not come back with her. He attended the Yearly Meeting in London and traveled in Ireland and the north of Scotland, taking part in many religious meetings. But through a mishap he broke a limb and was taken sick. He was entertained and cared for at the house of Lindley Murray, the grammarian, at Holdgate, near York, in England, where he died Second-month 13th, 1786, in his 78th year. He is buried there, and a modest stone erected by a descendant marks his grave.

The letter of John Pemberton announcing his death to the widow speaks of him in high terms. Among his last words were "I see no cloud in my way. I die in peace with all men." His grandson, Thomas Ross, of Chester county, wrote a poem of considerable merit commemorative of his virtues. In his will, dated Fourth-month 12th, 1784 he speaks of his

occupation or trade as that of a farmer. His son Thomas and nephew John Chapman were appointed executors. He bequeathed thirty pounds to be appropriated to building a Friends' school house, probably the same that stood near Wrightstown Meeting House. His widow, Kesiah, did not long survive him. She died the

following year upon the farm in Solebury which he purchased from the Penns in 1737. This was their home as long as they both lived, throughout a married life of fifty-five years. Upon it they built a stone house in the year of the purchase, and in 1730 added to it a substantial and commodious extension, which is still standing. Their children were:

Mary--married Thomas Smith and has numerous descendants; born First-month, 17th, 1732.

John--born 11th-month, 11th, 1734

Kesiah--born First-month 11th, 1736.

Thomas--born Second-month 23d, 1739.

John married Mary Duer, of Solebury, and moved to Philadelphia. He had several children. Of these, Joseph moved West; John was a physician, and Thomas, who married Rachel, daughter of Daniel Longstreth, of Warminster, was a distinguished lawyer. He was usually spoken of as "Lawyer Thomas Ross" or "Lawyer Tom." He settled in West Chester, but had an extensive practice throughout Eastern Pennsylvania. By his first wife he had a daughter Rachel, born Third-month 23d, 1732, died Seventh-month 6th, 1875, who married Richard Maris. The late George G. Maris, of Buckingham, was a son of this marriage. Lawyer Thomas Ross' second wife was Mary Thomas. They had several children. The Patience Ross referred to in the will of Kesiah was probably a daughter of John.

Thomas Ross, born in 1739, was the father of Judge John Ross. He was the youngest son of the preacher. He was executor under the will of his father and purchased from the estate the Solebury property, which he conveyed to his son Thomas, referred to as "the latter," in 1796. He and his wife Jane resided there until about 1800, when they removed to the county seat at Newtown and took up their residence in the house of Aaron Phillips on Main street.

In 1801 he purchased this house and continued to reside there for several years, probably until his decease. It is probable that he acted as Clerk of the Courts, to which his son Thomas was appointed in 1801, holding it eight years. The exact time of his death is not known, but it probably occurred in 1814-15. Jane, his wife, died prior to 1814. He was twice married, his first wife being a Miss Clark and the second Jane Chapman. His children were Thomas, John, William, Cephas, Hugh and Samuel. Of these Thomas and William had no children. Thomas, John and Hugh all became lawyers and were prominent.

Thomas, the oldest, born in 1767, studied law and was admitted to the Bar in Easton in 1793. He did not remain in practice there but went to the city of New York where he engaged in the business of "hatter," No. 3, Burling Slip, Queen street. He returned to Bucks county prior to 1800, and purchased of his father the Penn tract of land in Solebury. He settled and practiced law in Newtown, but having marital difficulties, removed to New Hope, his place of residence at the time of his death.

He was a successful man of business, and possessed superior abilities, which, possibly, owing to the unsettling influences of domestic troubles, were not developed in the law, as they might have been. In 1800, aided no doubt by his neighbor and friend Samuel D. Ingham and brother John, then in the legislature, he obtained from Governor McKean, the appointment to the offices of Prothonotary, and Clerk of the Courts of Bucks county, which he held for eight years. These offices were the most lucrative positions in the county.

In 1804, at a meeting of Democratic citizens or Jeffersonians, held at Wilkinsons', in Buckingham, Thomas Ross, Samuel D. Ingham and James Milnor were appointed a committee to prepare and issue an address in favor of the re-election of Governor McKean, and against proposed amendments to the Constitution. The address is a thorough and able paper, and no doubt assisted greatly towards the success of the Governor, who was bitterly opposed. The principal reason for opposition was that he was a lawyer, which whether valid or not was true, for Governor McKean is now regarded as one of the greatest men of his day, as he was always known to be a great lawyer. Thomas Ross, married Mary Lyons, of Long Island, New York. They had no children, and after his removal to Newtown, through some misunderstanding, they entered into articles of separation and he changed his residence to New Hope. He died in 1815, while on a visit to his brother John, in Easton. By his will he left his entire estate to his brother John. This included the homestead in Solebury. John devised this farm to his son the late Thomas Ross, of Doylestown, who in 1853 conveyed it to Edward Vanzant. From the time the first Thomas purchased it of the Penns, it was in the family continuously, for a period of 116 years.

HISTORICAL.

John Ross and the Ross Family.

A Paper Read by Judge Harman Yerkes,
Before the Midwinter Meeting of the
Bucks County Historical Society, on
January 21st, 1896.

Hugh Ross studied law with his brother John, at Easton, and was admitted to the Bar there in 1801. He practiced law there a short time, came back to Newtown, where he practiced a few years, then went to Trenton and subsequently settled in Milford, Pike county, Penna., where he built the house still occupied by his grand daughter, Mrs VanAukin, and in which he died. He married Catherine Biddis, of Pike county, and had two children, Edward and Louisa. Edward graduated at West Point and was in the Florida war. He was celebrated as a mathematician, and translated Bourdon's Algebra for the use of the West Point Academy. He sold his translation to Davies, who published it as

Davies' Bourdon. He was also a professor of mathematics at Kenyon College, Ohio, and at the time of his death at the Free Academy, New York City. He was twice married and had several children. His descendants are numerous in Ohio, one of them married the celebrated Thomas Corwin.

Hugh Ross' daughter Leulsa married John Brodhead, and had a number of children, prominent in Pike county. One of his daughters, still living, married Senator Charles H. Van Wyck, of Nebraska. Another daughter, Maria, married Hon. Daniel VanAukin. Cephas Ross was twice married, first to Mary Bowman, second to Mary Biddle, and had nine children. He resided on the Plumstead farm of his brother John and at New Hope, where he died in 1840.

Samuel Ross, another brother of Hon. John, and the youngest child of Thomas and Jane Chapman Ross, born 1779, married in 1815 Margaret, the daughter of Christian and Mary Helena Wirtz. They had six children, of whom William Walter, of Philadelphia, and Margaret Anna, who married James Lefferts, yet survive.

Hon. John Ross, son of Thomas, and grandson of the preacher, was born in Solebury township, Bucks county, February 24, 1770. Like all the members of his father's family he received a liberal education. When quite young he started out to make his own way in the world. He commenced life as a school teacher at Durham Furnace. Richard Backhouse, a justice of the peace and one of the justices of the Bucks County Court, then owned and operated the furnace. He became impressed with the industry and ability of the young man and when Mr. Ross had decided to go South in pursuit of fortune, persuaded him to change his mind, and to remain in Pennsylvania. He suggested to him that he study law and offered to assist him during the time required for reading, and to help him later in obtaining a practice. Mr. Ross yielded to the suggestion of his friend and entered upon the study of the law under the instructions of his cousin, Thomas Ross, of West Chester.

The following incident shows the feeling of gratitude which the family cherished for Richard Backhouse. One, Joseph Lewis, a somewhat noted stage driver in his day, who drove the coach between Easton and Philadelphia, was not as provident a man as he might have been. Sometimes when he got in straitened circumstances he would call upon the late Thomas Ross for assistance. He never went away empty handed. On one occasion, one of the family asked Mr. Ross, why it was that he was always so lavish in handing out money to Lewis, apparently before he was asked for it. His only reply was: "Joe Lewis is a grandson of Richard Backhouse, who aided my father when in need of help. But for his generosity I might not have the money to give. Lewis shall not want as long as I am able to give."

John Ross was admitted to the Bar of Bucks county, at Newtown in 1792, and at Easton the same year. After some deliberation it was decided that he should settle in Easton, Northampton county.

More than one reason operated to bring about this determination. Undoubtedly, an important one was the friendship of Richard Backhouse, who had large business connections in Easton, growing out of his management of the Durham Iron

Works. He was in a position to render a young lawyer much assistance. But a controlling reason was the result of the conception of an ambitious scheme to acquire an extended and potential influence throughout the circuits of the first, second and third judicial districts, not only in the practice of the profession of the law, but also in directing and controlling the politics of the Eastern section of the State.

It must be conceded, surely not to their discredit, that the family in every generation, have been imbued with a desire for popular approbation, and an ambition for professional excellence and official position. This trait was manifested by the first of the family here who, long after he had attained the allotted three score and ten years left his peaceful home and incurred the dangers of the then difficult ocean voyage that he might visit the home of his youth, and try the power of his eloquence in subjecting its people to the opinions to which he had become a convert in the new world. Again it appeared in the father and brothers of Judge Ross who seconded him in activity in the public issue of the day as it has been shown in the two generations of his descendants, who have lived in our own day.

It was told by his son that when John Ross came to the bar it was thought that with a cousin, Thomas Ross, then prominent in the affairs of Chester county, often engaged in the Courts of Philadelphia county, and constantly riding the circuit through Chester, Lancaster, Delaware, Bucks, Montgomery and Dauphin, and a father, brothers and numerous connections in Bucks, who wielded a wide influence, John should seek a new field that the family power might be extended and made to command a still greater control. The place of settlement was apparent. The third Judicial District or circuit consisting of the counties of Berks, Northampton, Luzerne and Northumberland embraced all this territory except Dauphin county north of the counties named to the New York State line and lying between the Delaware and Susquehanna, then practically a wilderness, now almost an empire in wealth and population.

Easton, at the forks of the Delaware and Lehigh and within easy communication, by means of those highways, with the more populous regions, was to become the centre of the movements of this family junta. Whether this clever conception was hatched in the fertile brain of Thomas Ross, of Chester county, or originated with young John Ross, it was worthy of men of unusual grasp and ability and of the widest, if not the wildest, ambition. As we proceed in the narrative of the life of the man of whom Henry P. Ross was wont to say, that "no member of the family approached him in ability," we shall see how this dominant idea of an extended yet centralized family influence became instilled into the minds of the entire family and repeatedly controlled the conduct and settled the fate of its members in every generation. In this one idea every son of the race was instructed and never of them failed to devotedly cherish it was regarded as recreant to a family tradition and duty.

When John Ross settled in Easton his brother Thomas probably joined him and completed his law studies there. He was admitted to that Bar in 1793 but, it ap-

Mr. Ross immediately went to New York. He was not so deeply immersed in his professional and ambitious schemes that he had proof against the blandishment of a fair sex. In a letter written in October, 1793, to his lately married brother Thomas, with whom he had been visiting, he declares his purpose "as soon as Court is over" to turn his attention to "some-

thing in the poetical line which may please Mrs. Ross or her sister." The reference to the sister is significant in connection with the purpose to do something in the poetical line. Especially is this so when the sentence is injected into the middle of a letter upon the prosaic subject of a saddle and bridle, and lame horse. The young man of 23 probably failed heart, as the letter was not sent, but found in his papers, 103 years after it was written. Miss Lyon appears to have been supplanted by one, Mary Jenkins, whom he married a couple of years later.

His selection of Easton for settlement was a wise one. Through a strong will, limitless ambition, dauntless courage, with possibly an active quick temper to incite it, Mr. Ross by strict application and attention to business, soon obtained a large practice.

At that time one of the most prominent lawyers in the State, Samuel Sitgraves, resided in Easton, and towered far above any member of his profession in that section. He was fresh from his triumph of convicting John Fries for treason in the United States Courts, in Philadelphia, and had been honored by a seat in Congress and held the appointment of foreign Ambassador from President Adams. With an audacity characteristic of more than one of his descendants, Mr. Ross sought with avidity, rather than avoided, forensic conflicts with the great man. His daring brought him into popular notice and won the admiration of the rough backwoodsmen from above the mountains, whose confidence and support he always retained.

In the division into political parties then going on, the Rosses took the side of the Jeffersonians or Democratic Republicans against the Adams men or Federalists.

In Bucks, Thomas Ross and his son, Thomas, when he returned from New York, joined hands with Samuel D. Ingham, in support of the Jeffersonians, while in Northampton, John threw down the gauntlet of battle to Samuel Sitgraves, the great Federal leader, and by a skillful use of the popular prejudice, broke his power forever, for there is no doubt that Mr. Sitgrave's influence was finally destroyed through the part he took in prosecuting Fries. There was much sympathy, especially amongst the Germans for Fries in his tax rebellion, and the severity of Mr. Adams' Administration alienated them from his party. John Ross profited by this revulsion of feeling. About 1800 he was elected to the Legislature, and while in this position aided no doubt by Samuel D. Ingham, procured the appointment of Prothonotary and clerk for his brother, Thomas, in Bucks county.

In 1804 he became a candidate for Congress in the district comprising the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Northampton, Wayne and Luzerne, entitled to three members. At a meeting of the conferees of all the counties held at Hartzell's Tavern, Nazareth, September 25, 1804, presided

over by Isaac Vannorn, of Bucks. John Pugh, of Bucks, John Ross, of Northampton, and Frederick Conard, of Montgomery, were nominated by the Democratic Republicans. The candidates received nearly all the votes, there being but three scattering, and the nominations were made unanimous.

But the action of the convention was unsatisfactory to a number of citizens of Northampton county, who were disgruntled over the proposed retirement of the veteran politician and soldier General Robert Brown, the then Congressman, in favor of a young man of 31.

Accordingly on the next day a meeting of the inhabitants of Northampton county was assembled at Easton, and proceeded to nominate General Brown as an independent candidate.

Their resolutions declared that they had not been well used by the decision of the conferees so far as respects John Ross, for the following reasons:

1. The Northampton conferees were appointed by twenty-seven persons, principally from one township.

2. John Ross when a member of the Legislature of the State advocated anti-Republican principles and more particularly in conjunction with the Federalists opposed the amendments to the constitution of the United States.

3. That General Brown, who has served heretofore in Congress with fidelity; who in the year 1776 labored with his own hands to procure sustenance for his fellow prisoners; who borrowed money at a large discount to alleviate their distress; and who has unceasingly and unremittingly endeavored to promote the prosperity of the Union is still entitled to our warmest confidence. That we will use all proper and descent means to support the re-election of said Robert Brown as member of Congress.

The Federalists made no nomination and the contest narrowed down to one between Ross and Brown. The latter was elected. The result showed that while the older man held the voters from the older settled districts, the young advocate had won the affections of the backwoodsmen of Luzerne and Wayne where Ross received nearly all the votes and Brown hardly any. The large vote for him in Bucks showed the influence of his connection here. Strange to say, notwithstanding the Easton resolutions denounced Ross' affiliation with the Federalists, that party, especially in Montgomery county, threw their vote almost en masse to General Brown. Such is the inconsistency, shall I say trickery and dishonesty of the so-called popular expression of politics.

Undismayed by his defeat in the first venture in a popular election, due more, however, to the popularity of General Brown than to his own demerits, Mr. Ross, while devoting himself to his profession, had no idea of abandoning the field of politics. Few men could count on stronger support, and more promising prospects for the future. His cousin, Thomas Ross, was still in active practice and constantly engaged in the Courts of all the southeastern counties. In Bucks his father was highly respected, and his brother was Prothonotary and Clerk in all the Courts, the most important and lucrative position in the county, and the dockets show, that he himself was engaged in numerous cases in the county. At Easton, George Wolf, afterwards Governor, had been his

student, and with other young men was his warm supporter. These circumstances, Mr. Ross set about strengthening his power. After his defeat by General Brown, he and his Bucks county relatives formed an alliance with Samuel D. Ingham, and became the leaders of the McKean men. The understanding then entered into with Ingham lasted to their mutual advantage for nearly twenty years, when causes of which I shall speak later caused their paths to diverge. In 1808 Mr. Ross again became a candidate for Congress and was successful. At the expiration of his term he was appointed Prothonotary of Northampton county. In those days the county officers were not prohibited from practicing law, and owing to the particularity required in proceedings lawyers were frequently appointed by the Governor to fill these offices. One person often held all the offices, which made the appointment very desirable. Samuel D. Ingham, while in Congress, held the office of Prothonotary. Judge James Biddle felt that he was making a sacrifice when he resigned the Prothonotaryship of Philadelphia to accept the position of President Judge of Philadelphia, Bucks and Delaware. In 1814 Mr. Ross was again elected to Congress and re-elected in 1816 but resigned before serving out the term to accept the Judgeship. On January 25, 1818, he was appointed by Governor Findley to the office of President Judge of the Seventh Judicial district, comprising the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware, made vacant by the resignation of Hon. Bird Wilson. The office was then held for life.

Samuel D. Ingham, Judge Ross' colleague in Congress, was then Prothonotary of the county. Mr. Ingham shortly after resigned his seat in Congress to become Secretary of the Commonwealth. We find the first order of the new Judge, published by Mr. Ingham as Prothonotary, required that when payments were entered of record, the warrants or confessions must be filed of record. It is surprising that this had not always been required.

John Ross now returned to the county of his birth after an absence of over a quarter of a century. He was in the prime of life and no doubt felt a proud satisfaction in coming back to the home of his ancestors to assume the duties of its most important office. Twenty-eight years before he had gone hence to win fortune, a poor and unnoticed school teacher. He had been successful beyond ordinary expectation or hope. In the State Legislature, in Congress, in Society, at the Bar and in material wealth he had and now occupied a foremost position. Besides the valuable property in Bucks county devised by his brother Thomas he had amassed much valuable real estate in Northampton county. In Easton he owned a pretentious home, and had acquired a tract of 343 acres of land in what is now Ross township, Monroe county. There at the Delaware Water Gap he contemplated establishing his family home, and erected a commodious, and for the time, handsome house. The spot is undoubtedly a beautiful one, situated on the divide of the Delaware and Lehigh. To the north, the waters flow to the Delaware; to the south, by the beautiful Aquanahicola to the Lehigh.

"The Lehigh to the Delaware flows;
The Delaware to the sea."

In the centre of the domain which he named Ross Common he set apart the family graveyard still owned by his descendants. Such preparation is suggestive of family affliction. When he moved to Doylestown the little graveyard had already received more than one of its eternal occupants. His brother Thomas was buried there in 1815, and other graves were there. His oldest son, George, a graduate of Princeton, and admitted to the Bar in 1818, had become embroiled in a quarrel over a young lady, and as the result of a duel was either dead or a wanderer, in either instance, mourned by his parents as dead. Another son had become incurably afflicted as the result of sickness, and unwise medical treatment. Of all who twenty years before had formed that alliance promising so much, he and Ingham only survived to reap its fruits. Under these circumstances it is probable it was a relief to change his home to the county of his father's. He occupied the Ross mansion, soon to be torn down, at Main and Court streets, which a few years later he purchased of Judge Watts. He did not assume his office unknown to the district over which he was to preside. The following contemporary account of him, published in the *West Chester Village Record*, is no doubt an impartial description of him, as a lawyer, and is well worth reproduction as fairly describing at least two of his grandsons, known to us.

"It is announced in the official paper at Harrisburg, that John Ross, Esq., member of Congress from the district composed of Northampton, Bucks, Wayne and Pike counties, is appointed President Judge of the district composed of the counties of Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Bucks. There are, without doubt, many gentlemen within the district, of both political parties, well qualified to fill the office, numerous as are the requisites and great as are the responsibilities.

But the usage has recently obtained, in appointing Presidents of court to select gentlemen out of the districts; and for this satisfactory reason—that a lawyer who was in full practice would be called upon for years, to decide upon causes in which he had been interested as counsel; or frequently to leave the bench.

If then, no disrespect has been shown to the district, the only remaining question is, whether the person selected is qualified for the station. Mr. Ross is a man of active mind and decided character, and has entered with zeal into the political contest of the day. If he has been the favorite of Northampton county, which has for years been the stronghold of Democratic principles, I need not say, that in politics we widely differ. Under the present feelings or excitement perhaps it could not have been expected that Mr.

Findley would elect a judge from the ranks of his opponents, but it is hoped that he will exercise, at least, as much liberality as his predecessor, and not make, injudicial appointments, a devotion to particular political tenets, an indispensable requisite to promotion.

Mr. Ross has been, for the last fifteen years, in active practice in Northampton and the neighboring counties. In commencing business he found Mr. Sitgrave at the head of the Bar in that district—as he would have been from his talents, in any other in the Union. Instead of being de-

essed by the high standing and attainments of this gentleman, whom he must meet or shun, they awakened the ardent spirit of Mr. Ross to the highest exertions of honorable emulation. Almost always engaged in opposition, it was for many years an interesting struggle of the one to maintain in exclusive honor the heights so fairly gained, and of the other, at least, to share the enviable elevation.

This conflict naturally led to study, accuracy in proceeding, vigilance to defend from attack, and alertness to see and seize upon the weak points of his adversary's argument or cause. Mr. Ross is, therefore, a learned and an able lawyer. As an advocate he neither aims at pathos, nor goes out of his way to round a period, but he always opens his cause in a clear manner, preserves the strong points lucidly to view, and enforces his arguments always with perspicuity, often with eloquence. In mentioning the politics of Mr. Ross I mean only to gratify the natural curiosity of my readers who, when a new officer is appointed wish to know "all about him" and not to intimate that his politics will influence him on the Bench. Quite otherwise. There, I am confident in saying he will be known neither as a Federalist nor Democrat, but an Independent Judge, doing his duty without fear, favor or affection."

I have now reached a period in the career of my subject, when a just narration of his life involves largely the political history of the county, and the relations thereto of one or two of his successors on the Bench.

It was the beginning, in this county, of the era of personal politics and personal journalism. It is not an agreeable undertaking to delve into the history of that time, and by the cold unprejudiced light of time read the discreditable and often vulgar personalities of the local press. For a period of seventy-five years, with a few honorable exceptions, it has been the misfortune, not to say disgrace of our county that, the editors of our newspapers, many of them strangers, abiding here but a short time, mistaking the mission of true journalism, have substituted, for the advocacy of principles and the publication of ideas, personal abuse and vilification. They have systematically chilled and warped the local patriotism of our people by belittling the public services, and attacking the characters of our prominent men, preferring not to encourage local pride and admiration by bestowing just praise where worthily earned.

When one goes over the old files of the newspapers of our county and reads the unjust and nauseating abuse of Samuel D. Ingham, the Chapmans, the Pughs, the Rosses, Fox McDowell and others, without whom our county would indeed be meagre of honorable mention involuntarily the question arises. Is it possible that a fair-minded and disinterested people who knew the worth of these men and honored them, would tolerate their discredit by supporting such degrading journalism?

But succeeding generations have been more liberal and time evens up all things. Now when these men are remembered only with honor, the slander and those who invented it pollute one common grave of oblivion. Who remembers the names even of the vilifiers of fifty years ago who thus prostituted their opportunities. They

were not of us in fact, and are not of us in history. Yet when we reflect that but for these harpies, Samuel D. Ingham would not have been driven away to die out of the county he so long honored. John Ross, in his old age and sickness would not have been hounded to his grave; the belligerence and bitterness of John Fox and the reserve of Henry Chapman in public would never have appeared to con-

ceal the affectionate devotion of the one, and the kindness and affability of the other to family and friends; and when we recall the anguish bitter tears of their dear ones, no doubt often endured in silence, we cannot but despise the despicable natures of those who with the opportunity of reaching the uninformed so abused a sacred privilege.

A careful statement of the events connected with the course of Judge Ross during the remainder of his life requires greater space than can conveniently be included in one paper. I shall therefore continue it in another paper.

From, *Intelligence*

Ogden R

Date, _____

THE CLAIM OF CONNECTICUT TO WYOMING.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, July 19, 1892, by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville.

[Concluded.]

Captain Ogden having recruited his forces in Northampton county appeared before the fort in May. Finding it too strong and well defended to be attacked with safety, he withdrew to the southward. A military company in showy uniform under Colonel Francis Turbot, from Philadelphia, reached the spot in June, were likewise disheartened and retreated below the mountains to await reinforcements. During the summer many more emigrants arrived from New England, but this did not deter the Pennsylvanians from efforts to expel them as intruders. Another expedition was organized by the Proprietaries, consisting of about 250 men, well armed and equipped, under Sheriff Jennings and Captain Ogden, and sent to the scene of contention in September. A four-pound cannon also was forwarded on a boat from Fort Augusta, now Sunbury. This was the first piece of ordnance ever taken so far up the Susquehanna. In some way they

found opportunity to seize Captain Durkee and despatched him in irons to Philadelphia, where he was put in prison and held for some months.

The Yankees, when their leader was captured, and the formidable cannon was brought to bear on them, despaired of victory and entered into articles of capitulation, by which three or four of them were to be retained as prisoners, seventeen were to remain at Wyoming to gather the harvest, and the rest were to leave the valley immediately. Private property was not to be disturbed. When they had gone Ogden, in total disregard of the terms of surrender, seized the cattle, horses and sheep and everything else he could dispose of, and sent them to places on the Delaware to be sold. The seventeen left to harvest the crops, now without means of sustenance, were compelled, with sad hearts and in extreme destitution, to trace their way through the woods back to Connecticut. Thus ended the struggle of 1769. The Pennsylvanians, having dislodged the Yankees three times, were in undisputed possession of the valley.

Hoping that their opponents would be discouraged and make no more attempts to locate there, Jennings and Ogden left ten men in the fort to guard it and care for the property, and went themselves to Philadelphia to spend the winter. But in February, 1770, while enjoying the luxuries of city life, they were startled to learn that a company of forty persons from Lancaster county, Pa., and ten Connecticut people had obtained a township of land from the Susquehanna company, repaired to Wyoming, driven off the garrison from the fort and planted their standards on its walls. Captain Ogden collected fifty men with all the speed possible and hastened to the arena of strife. When he found the stronghold in the hands of the strangers and too well defended to be easily subdued, he took up his quarters at Mill creek, about a mile distant, and proceeded to fortify the old block house, while waiting for reinforcements. Help was not easily obtained. Many of the people of Pennsylvania disliked the proprietary government. They knew that the proprietors had employed surveyors to set off most of the rich land for themselves, and their feelings were enlisted with those who were actual settlers. Governor Penn, experiencing great difficulty in raising troops, applied to General Gage, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in North America, then in New York, for assistance in repressing what he termed a lawless and unprincipled invasion. The general replied: "The affair in question seems to be a dispute concerning property, in which I cannot but think it would be highly improper for the King's troops to interfere." The Connecticut people soon attacked Ogden, and after varying fortune, with the aid of the cannon, compelled him to surrender and retire from the vicinity. Then fearing that their adversaries might return with larger forces and occupy the Mill creek fortress again, they set it on fire and burned it to the ground. All was now quiet along the banks of the smiling Susquehanna. The New Englanders, relieved of annoyance from their southern neighbors, applied themselves to the labors of the farm and to the more agreeable employment of catching shad, which

came up the stream in such large multitudes in the spring that with the rudest nets of bark and long grape vines a boundless profusion was taken.

But Governor Penn was not disposed to abandon the contest. He issued a proclamation forbidding all persons making any settlement at Wyoming without the authority of himself or his agents, and then raised the largest armed force he could muster and commissioned it under his intrepid assistant, Ogden, to expel the Yankees. The plan of this active officer was to march with the utmost secrecy and celerity, and surprise them. Taking an unusual route by the old warrior's path, which passed through the Delaware Water Gap, he descended suddenly from the mountains upon them, as they were scattered in small parties busily at work on the cultivated plain. A considerable number were captured and the remainder fled to Fort Durkee. This post, though bravely defended, Ogden soon took by storm; the leaders were imprisoned in Philadelphia, the rest in Easton, and their property became the spoil of the victors.

The triumphant partisan was now confident, that, after being four times driven away from the contested ground, the hated Yankees would not dare to appear there again. A company of twenty men was left to guard the fort and vicinity during the winter, and with glad hearts the main body of the Pennsylvanians sought their homes. But the quiet that rested upon the valley, was not to remain long unbroken. On the 18th of December Captain Lazarns Stewart with twenty men from Connecticut, swooped down unexpectedly upon the garrison, who in careless security had not even stationed a sentinel, and put them to flight. The pertinacious adherents of the Susquehanna company were once more in possession of the coveted prize. With the commencement of 1771 the second year of the contest expired, and all efforts to banish the eastern adventurers permanently had proved abortive. But the proprietaries were not discouraged. With great exertion they soon secured one hundred volunteers and in thirty days from the time Ogden's force had been expelled, he himself with his new command was near Fort Durkee. His first care was to provide shelter for his men from the inclemency of the weather. As the old fort at Mill creek, besides being in ashes, was too distant, they set about building one only sixty rods from the enemy. At this they worked with such unflagging industry that in three or four days it was nearly completed. Then Sheriff Hacklein, acting as a civil officer, advanced to Fort Durkee, and demanded its surrender in the name and by the authority of the government of Pennsylvania. Captain Stewart, standing with four or five others upon an elevated spot, answered, "That he had taken possession in the name and behalf of the Colony of Connecticut, in whose jurisdiction they were; and in that name and by that authority he would defend it."

In thus assuming to act in behalf of Connecticut he transcended his authority, for neither the Executive nor the As-

sembly had officially sanctioned the war-like proceedings of its citizens in that region. But it had deeded the land to the Susquehanna Company, in which many of the principal men were peculiarly interested, and all the people espoused their cause. Hence it is not strange that for effect its name should be employed in the refusal to surrender. The sheriff withdrew to the new block-house, called Fort Wyoming, which was put with all dispatch into the best possible state of defence. Everything being in readiness, Captain Ogden, accompanied by his brother Nathan and most of his troops, advanced to Fort Durkee, and after receiving a denial to a summons for surrender, began to fire. The besieged returned it promptly, and at the first volley four of Ogden's men fell, among them his brother, a noble young man, who in a few moments expired. This sharp repulse induced the attacking party to retire, taking with them their wounded and dead.

Captain Stewart, aware that the proprietaries were peculiarly exasperated against him, and that this battle would arouse their anger to a still higher pitch, concluded it would be most prudent to put himself out of their reach. Accordingly during the night, after the conflict, with twenty or thirty of his most experienced soldiers, he abandoned the fort, leaving about twenty behind, who were less exposed than himself to the ill will of the enemy. The next day Ogden seized the place and sent the garrison to jail at Easton. This was the fifth time the Yankees had been forestalled in their attempts to make the valley their own. They still, however, persisted in their determination to occupy it.

In the spring of 1772 Captain Zebulon Butler and Captain Stewart, with 150 men, arrived from Connecticut and laid siege to Fort Wyoming. So closely was it invested that the inmates could obtain no provisions, and could send out no messenger with a call for succor, and they were soon reduced to the verge of starvation. Captain Ogden, seeing that he could hold out but little longer, unless relief was obtained, determined to leave the fort himself, though at the risk of his life, and carry tidings of his extremity to Philadelphia. The mode in which he accomplished his perilous task is thus narrated: "A little past midnight on the 12th of July, when all was quiet, one of the Yankee sentinels saw something floating on the river having a very suspicious appearance. A shot awakened attention, and directed the eyes of every other sentinel to the spot. A volley was poured in, but producing no apparent effect; the thing still floated gently with the current, the firing was suspended, while the wonder grew what the object could be. Captain Ogden had tied his clothing in a bundle, and fastened his hat to the top; to this was connected a string of several yards in length, which he fastened to his arm. Letting himself noiselessly into the water, swimming so deeply on his back as only to allow his mouth to breathe, the whole movement demanding the most extraordinary skill and self-possession, he floated down, drawing the bundle after him. As he had calculated, this being the only object visible, drew the fire of his foes. He escaped unhurt, and when out of danger

he dressed himself in his drenched clothing and hat, perforated with bullets, and with the speed of the roe-buck was in the city on the third day, having accomplished one hundred and twenty miles, through a most rough and inhospitable wilderness."

His statements of the danger in which his men were, awakening intense interest in Philadelphia, a considerable force was raised and forwarded to relieve them. But Captain Butler pushed on the siege, and after several had been wounded and hostilities had continued four months, the fort was surrendered to him and the ground was left in the control of the Yankees.

The war had lasted nearly three years. The New Englanders had foiled the schemes of their opponents to compel them to forsake a region they believed to be within the limits of the colony, to which they owed allegiance. The settlers multiplied, and for some years enjoyed peace. In 1773 the General Assembly of Connecticut sent a commission to Philadelphia to confer with the Governor and council upon the claims of the two colonies, but no satisfactory result was reached. The Eastern people having formed a settlement on the West Branch at Muncy, the proprietaries in 1775 sent Colonel Plunket with a company of troops against it. Little resistance being offered, he took the men prisoners and placed them in jail at Sunbury, and sent the women and children to Wyoming, where many of them had friends. After this no further attempts were made by Connecticut to plant her citizens on the West Branch.

During the war of the Revolution the people at Wyoming passed through fearful sufferings from Indians, the actual loss of life being probably three hundred, or one in ten of the inhabitants, exceeding one-third of the adult male population at the commencement of the struggle. All the United Colonies at the same ratio would have lost 300,000.

Soon after the contest with Great Britain was virtually closed, in 1782, Congress, at the request of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, appointed a court of five gentlemen from different States to try the validity of their claims to the territory in dispute. After a session at Trenton, N. J., of forty-one days they arrived at the conclusion that the civil jurisdiction and pre-emption belonged to Pennsylvania. To this decision, which was a source of great surprise to multitudes, Connecticut cheerfully submitted, though it entailed the loss of a splendid domain, for which her citizens had been long contending at the cost of much suffering and great expense. Upon the events which followed in the subsequent history of Wyoming and which were of a most stirring and memorable character, time forbids us to enter.

PROUD OF ITS LIBRARY

Newtown Has One That Dates Clear
Back to 1760.

THE REVOLUTION CLOSED IT

But it Took Life Again and is Now
More Flourishing Than Ever.

A Credit to Bucks
County.

The 135th anniversary of the establishment of the oldest public library in Bucks County, the Newtown Library, took place last Friday. Its long existence is a matter of pride not only to Newtown borough, but to the whole county. "Old Bucks" has a number of old libraries among the thriving towns within its fertile borders, attention having been called to the 95-year-old Langhorne Library a week ago. Of all these worthy institutions none are so venerable as the Newtown Library. It was organized on August 9, 1760, and has been conducted continuously ever since with the exception of a few years during the troublous times of the Revolution.

The peaceful and charming village of Newtown, the seat of this old library, may well claim to be Philadelphia's own sister city, for it was founded by Wil-

From, *Record*

Phila Pa

Date, *Aug 11 195*

it its name. Tradition has it that Penn, on one occasion during a ride up country to look at some portions of his big farm, reached the spot now occupied by the pretty hamlet. It was covered with a thick growth of heavy timber, with a stream of clear water and several good springs. Delighted with the natural beauty of the surroundings, Penn exclaimed, "I propose this for my new town." The delightful springs soon became known, and were a stopping place for the pioneers, and, in this way the place was named "Newtown" before a house was built. Neshaminy Creek winds around the north and west of the town, and through its centre courses a smaller stream, Newtown Creek.

HOW IT WAS STARTED.

When the library was started the hamlet was the country seat, and the whole country was yet peaceful under the sovereignty of King George. The first meetings were held at the famous old Red Lion Inn, still standing, but now assuming the unpretentious title of the "Brick Hotel." The first directors were



OLD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NEWTOWN, WHERE HESSIAN SOLDIERS WERE IMPRISONED.

liam Penn, who is said to have given

influential members of the community, Jonathan Du Bois, Abraham Chapman, Amos Strickland, David Towning and Henry Margerum. The secretary was Thomas Chapman; treasurer, John Harris, and librarian, Joseph Thornton. The directors often met at the librarian's house, where the books were kept, and at other times at the Red Lion.

Secretary Chapman was a faithful scribe and a good penman. The old chronicles of the society, still carefully preserved, are perfectly legible and show evidences of good keeping. From these records it may be judged that the literary tastes of the library's patrons were rather severe. The fifty volumes purchased in Philadelphia that first formed the library's circulation were evidently selected to train a high, if dry, vein of thought. Among the volumes were "Rowing's Philosophy," "Dignity of Human Nature," "Paradise Lost," "Watt's Logick," "Dictionary of the Arts and 'Ci-ences'" and others of the same character. Evidently the careful fathers took good care that no literature of the French novel or Wild West varieties should be circulated to disturb the peace of the community.

Few changes occurred with the library until the breaking out of the Revolution. The subscribers paid their annual dues of 10 shillings, and were evidently delighted when such acquisitions as "Burns' Justice," "Rollins' Roman History" and other works on science and theology were added to the library's shelves, as is recorded. But when the first mutterings of colonial revolt were heard in 1774, and erstwhile friends were divided into patriots and Tories, the little library was temporarily forced out of existence by the momentous impending struggle.

FORGOTTEN IN THE REVOLUTION.

In the years of war that followed the library was forgotten. Newtown throbbed with the spirit of the Revolution, and a number of the library subscribers entered the Continental Army, never to return to the green little hamlet. During the battle of Trenton General Greene made his headquarters at the Red Lion, and Washington made his headquarters in the town during 1776, in an old stone



Newtown's Public Library.

house which still stands. On the day following the battle of Trenton, December 27, 1776, he returned to Newtown and wrote a letter to Congress giving an account of the victory. He left the town two days later, crossed the Delaware and outflanked Cornwallis at the

Assumpsick on the night of January 2, 1777.

After the battle of Trenton 1000 Hessian prisoners were quartered in Newtown, and the old Presbyterian church, erected in 1769 and still standing, was used as a hospital. Many years afterward the bones of an English officer who died in the church were dug up in altering the building.

The town was an important military rendezvous during the succeeding years, and attached to itself no little Revolutionary interest. During these years the library remained disbanded, but in October, 1783, after peace had been declared, reorganization took place. Through the efforts of Directors David Towning, Henry Wynkoop, Thomas Jenks, Timothy Taylor and Joseph Chapman, the little library was again firmly established. But in 1788 it was again about to disband, owing to a lack of interest, when a younger element took charge, and incorporated a library association, with 45 members. The charter was granted by act of Assembly on March 27, 1789, and under this charter the society still exists.

HAS A SUBSTANTIAL HOME.

In 1824 the first building for the library was erected, a little frame structure on Court street, in the rear of houses which are said to have been built by Penn. In this building the library existed, with varying fortunes, until 1882, when a substantial brick building on a corner lot was erected.

There are at present 3478 books in the library, and the number is being added to every year. In 1887 Anna Mary Williamson bequeathed \$4000, the interest of which is to be devoted to adding to the library's books—a similar bequest to the one she made to the Langhorne library. Care is still exercised that literature of questionable merit remains expunged from its circulation. Miss Williamson's bequest provides that the books bought "shall be of a standard

From, *Press*
Phila & Pa
Date, *Aug 11 1895*

OLD ST. JAMES' CHURCH AT BRISTOL

A Landmark of History with
Many Memorable Associations.

EXCERPTS FROM THE RECORDS

During the Revolution the Original
Edifice Was Used as a Cavalry
Stable — Prominent Church-
men Who Have Been
Rectors.



OMEWHAT of the relation which historic Christ Church, in Philadelphia, holds to the Province of Pennsylvania does the venerable St. James Church, of Bristol, bear to Buckingham (now Bucks)

County. The church edifice of this latter was completed exactly seventeen years after that of the Philadelphia parish. From its deeds, vestry minutes and other manuscripts we are enabled to gather a fair knowledge of its colonial origin and history.

In 1690 George Keith, the distinguished Friend, sailed for England, a convert to Anglo-Catholicism, to return twelve years later as a missionary of the Church of England. In 1701 the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was organized in London, and in the following year

Keith was chosen as its first messenger to the American Colonies. His mission was to spread the teachings of the Gospel along the eastern shores of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. On the British man-of-war which bore Keith to America was a chaplain named Talbot, who became so enthusiastic over Keith's plans that he was permitted to be his companion in the work. The Fall of 1702 found the ardent couple at anchorage on the Delaware, off Burlington, their voyage happily finished. Talbot became so much attracted by St. Mary's, at Burlington, or Burlingtone, as it was then called, that he concluded to devote the remainder of his life there, ministering to the parishes of Burlington and Bristol, the latter being one which he and Keith had organized.

THE HUMBLE BEGINNING.

The first to come to Bristol was Keith, who obtained valuable assistance from Anthony Burton and John Rowland, extensive land owners, who had former-



ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BRISTOL.

ly been of the Friends persuasion. Burton and Rowland (the latter came over on the *Welcome* with Penn), gave their time and means to build up this ancient parish. The former, about 1710, gave Talbot a valuable tract to the north of what was then the only road in Bristol, the King's Highway—now known as Radcliffe Street. Upon this ground was built a small church, which was completed in 1712, and at that time was

Turning the title page we come to the grant which furnished quaint and valuable indication of the manner in which early deeds were drawn in Pennsylvania. It is addressed: "To All Christian People." The grantor therein declares that the land is to be held in trust for the use of the church, without any manner of challenge, claim or demand from the grantor (Anthony Burton). It names as trustee: "The Minister for the time being for ever." The first trustee to hold the legal title was Rev. Robert Weyman, rector at the



THE OLD CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

situated in a wood on a lane just beyond the first Friends' meeting house.

The only information we have regarding the origin of the building is to be found on the title page of "Book 2, St. James' Church, New Bristol" (which contains the minutes of the vestry). Here is the inscription:—

"The Proceedings of the Vestry of
"ST. JAMES' CHURCH.
"New Bristol.

"In the County of Bucks and Province of
"PENNSYLVANIA

"THIS CHURCH was built by Subscription of sev'l well disposed persons and being finished was dedicated to the honour of St. James the Greater (the festival of that apostle being ye 25th day of July).

"ANNO DOMI, 1712.

"The land appropriated for a Church Yard and Burying Ground is thus described:—"etc.,—"Given by Anthony Burton, Gent., for the Use and purpose aforesaid, according to the following Grant or Deed of Gift, to the minister of the said Church for the time being for ever."

This precious volume, which is in the keeping of the present rector, Rev. William Bryce Morrow, contains the vestry minutes from 1712 to 1776 and from 1806 to 1832 inclusive. A glance over its pages gives one a fair idea of the town itself as it was at that period and an interesting glimpse of its pioneer inhabitants.

time the instrument was executed. Then, as was the custom, the grantor warrants the title and Matthew W. Rue and Thomas Worrall (two vestrymen) witness the document and Anthony Burton has affixed his signature. Beside the seal of the county is the name of "Lawrence Growdon, Esq., one of the Justices, etc., for the County of Bucks."

THE ORIGINAL CHURCH.

The edifice erected on the land thus given, through the financial assistance of Burton, Rowland, the De Normandies and others, was one-story high and composed of brick and stone. The church, if such it could be called, faced the east, and the chancel contained but two articles—a plain communion table and a reading desk. At the rear of the church was the pulpit, underneath of which stood the chair of the "clarke." The nave at first contained but ten pews. In the walls on either side were two small windows filled with panes of ordinary glass. The first pew, directly under the reading desk, was reserved in the grant to the use of Anthony Burton and his heirs and assigns forever. Under this pew Burton upon his decease was interred. A small spire rose above the nave.

From the date of the church's consecration until 1733 there is no record of the progress of the little parish, although the church was continuously in use, and the congregation under the pastoral care of various missionaries of

the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The first minutes of the vestry extant begin with the exclamation, "Laus Deo!" and continue:—

"The Parishioners being met, Present the Rev. Mr. Robert Weyman, By the Majority of Voices elected for the Ensuing Year." Matthew Rue and Francis Gandout are chosen church wardens, "And the following Persons to Constitute ye Vestry: Mr. John Abraham De Normandle, Mr. William Hope, Mr. John Anthony De Normandle, Mr. John Bessonett, Mr. William Gregory, Mr. William Silverstone, Mr. Evan Harris, Mr. Matthias Keene, Mr. John Williams, Mr. Jonathan Bourne, Mr. Thomas Worrall." The Vestry placed Mr. Weyman's salary, for the year, at £10, and engaged one Samuel Watkins as "Clarke."

At the vestry meeting in the following year the minutes say that it was "Agreed that the present Ch. Wardens employ a proper person to enclose the Communion-Table with decent Rails, and to make such necessary Repairs as now appear to be wanting to the Church and Church House." By a subsequent record we find that these "Rails" cost 11 shillings!

INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS.

Passing to the year 1733 we find that "The Parishioners being met, Present the Rev'd William Lindsay, Minister for the Time being, elected and chosen for ye Ensuing year." The minister's salary was increased to £24. John Abraham De Normandle and John Bessonett are named as church wardens. This latter gentleman was a Huguenot who came to Bristol in 1731 and was the proprietor of the then famous King George Hotel on the King's Highway. In 1739 it was by the vestry "Agreed that ye Present Church Wardens Build at the Back of ye Church between ye north windows a Vestry Room Eleven feet wide & Sixteen feet Back, one Story high and ye walls of brick and to Build a chimney in the North end and all other Conveniences that they may think necessary, and to Repair ye Church windows and shutters and such other things as are needful to Be done, and for defraying ye Charges thereof It is furder agreed that ye said Church Wardens take into their Hands the money Dew to ye Church from Mr. J. Abraham De Normandle, and ye Estate of Jonathan Bourne and Matthias Keene and that ye Money to Be Collected in ye Church be appropriated to that use, and if that is not sufficient then the Church lay their acco'ts Before the Vestry to Consider furder etc." The debt mentioned amounted to £27.

Mr. Lindsay was succeeded in 1842 by Rev. Collin Campbell. This gentleman was a grandson of the High Sheriff of Nairn, and married the daughter of Justice Bard of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

In 1743 that immense vestry room (11x16 ft.!) was not completed. At this time the colonial parishioners resolved to "get ye church whitewashed," and likewise ten years later ordered that the pews "be rated in a just proportion to the quantity of Ground the said several Pews shall take." The country parsons then were not unlike those of to-day in some respects. In 1755 the vestry concluded to fix the amount due the missionary and the meek man agreed to labor among them for three years for a recompense of £10 per year. At the expiration of that time he had received but £11, leaving £19 still unpaid. Ten years prior to the Revolution Rev. Collin Campbell died, and the Rev. Mr. O'dell, a surgeon in the British Army, took his place. The last record we find of the colonial days of the parish is that of the Summer preceding the anno mirabillis, 1776.

Naturally, both Mr. O'dell and Mr. Lewis, then pastor of St. Mary's, sided with the Crown and hence St. James' was left without a spiritual guide. The minutes of this year (1775) are hastily written, the only thing at all noteworthy contained therein being this: "Agreed that the Space of Ground which lies immediately betwixt the Pulpit and Mr. Anthony Burton's Pew shall be set apart for a Public Pew for the Accommodation of Strangers resorting to this place."

A CAVALRY STABLE.

In 1776, as a late rector has said, "the church was soon deserted and desecrated in becoming a stable for the horses of the American cavalry." After the Revolution the former house of God was used as a barn, and during this period it was consumed by fire. The country church yard even as late as 1806 must have been, to say the least, desolate, for in that year the dying request of a parishioner was that he be not "buried in that neglected ground." Half a century earlier (in 1753) Graydon wrote, "And on a still more retired spot stood a small Episcopal church, whose lonely graveyard, with its surrounding wood scenery might have furnished an appropriate theme for such a muse as Gray's."

At the organization of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, in 1785, the parish was represented in the person of Christopher Merrick. It has had since its reviving in 1806, to the present time, eighteen rectors, some of whom have been men of note in the Episcopal Church of America.

In a secluded spot south of where the little church stood lie the remains of the De Normandies. This family held feudal tenures in the province of Champagne. For several centuries the eldest male in the direct line bore the title of "Lord de la Motte." Some of the descendants drifted to Switzerland, and to America came in 1706 Andre De Normandle in the role of a persecuted and fugitive Huguenot. Andre was accompanied by his two sons, John Abraham and John Anthony. The father died in 1724 and the headstone raised over his mortal remains bears this inscription:—

"ANDREW DE NORMANDIE
"Dycd ye 12th of Dec'er
"1724. Aged 73 years."

On either side lies the dust of the two sons: Anthony, who died in the Spring of 1748, and Abraham, who followed his brother ten years later. Each of these brothers occupied the office of church warden for a short period.

Hard by the graves of this princely family is the resting place of one concerning whom we have no record save that found on her tombstone, as follows: "Here Lyeth the body of SARAH BULLOCK Mother of Thos Sugar of the City of Philadelphia Carpenter who Departed this Life Augy 16th, 1734 Aged 34 years & Six monthes."

On the reverse is rudely carved a skull and beneath it is the following:—

"Who e'er thou art, with tender heart,
Stay, Read and think of mee,
As thou art now so once was I
As I am now so shalt thou be."

This is the second oldest stone that is fully decipherable.

A few paces to the right of the walk leading to the vestibule of the church edifice is a humble piece of marble, about four and one-half feet high, which bears the following record:—

"Sacred to the memory of
ANTONIN FURCY PICQUET,
Knight of the Order of St. Lewis,
Capt. of the French Navy and
Consul of France for the states of
Massachusetts, New Hampshire and

MAINE.
Born in France in the year 1777,
Died in Bristol, August 31, 1815.
Requiescat in pace."

This old gentleman carried in his body a bullet received in a duel fought in France prior to his journey to America. Alongside of his remains are interred those of his femme de charge.

NOTABLES OF THE DEAD PAST.

Just north of where the first church stood is the grave of Captain John Clark, of the British Troops. The memory of Clarke is worth a passing note. He was a distinguished soldier, who, a few years before the Revolution, settled on Badger's Island, south of Bristol. At one time the captain was a worshipful master in the Bristol lodge of the Masonic Order. Farther on lies the body of John Green, a captain in the American navy, who first had the honor to carry our flag on a voyage around the world. He brought to America the first batch of Shanghai fowls. Near the grave of Green is that of John Sharp, captain Tenth United States Infantry. Rumor has it that Sharp, while in command of his regiment above the borough, in 1798, became infatuated with a woman named Sarah McElroy, as did also a quartermaster of his regiment. The enraged captain challenged his inferior to a duel, the outcome of which is apparent by the stone erected to his memory. The officer fell at the second fire. Sarah McElroy died unmarried and her grave is close to that of her impetuous lover, John Sharp. In the early part of the present century came a Prussian nobleman, Baron Ludwig Niedestetter, with his Baroness Hortense and their infant, Ludwig, to Summer at the Bath Springs, then the Carlsbad of America. Whilst sojourning there the son succumbed to a fever and is buried a few yards distant from the fatally attractive maiden, Sarah.

Among a score of other stones worthy of mention are noted a marble in memory of Elizabeth, relict of William Hewson. William Hewson, F. R. S., prior to his departure for America was a professor of anatomy in an English university. A small headstone bears the name of George Gillespie, who died in 1781. He was the grandfather of the present Bishop of Western Michigan, Right Rev. George De Normandie Gillespie, D. D. The great English actor, Thomas Cooper, after being shamefully driven from the London playhouses, ended his days in Bristol. He built a house on Radcliffe Street, overlooking the Delaware, which is now the residence of Mrs. Richard Henry Morris. Cooper was for several years a vestryman of St. James', and at his decease was interred in the parish churchyard. Not a stone's throw from the tomb of Cooper lies another representative of the English stage, John Henry, who in 1794, was carried away by consumption. His remains are interred in a leaden casket. Upon the top of the vault is a thin marble slab bearing his name, the date of his death and an enumeration of his virtues which latter would occupy a page or two of foolscap. Beneath a large shaft of granite rests the mortal body of David Landreth, the father of the seed industry in America. The body of Rowland Stevens was interred in this ground. Stevens was a wealthy London banker and for a time represented his county in the House of Commons.

Within a few months the parish sexton in digging a fresh grave brought his spade in contact with something hard. Upon examination he found, at a depth of about four feet, the bones of two peculiarly large men. By those acquainted with the early history of the county, they are believed to be the remains of Revolutionary patriots. People with an antiquarian bent of mind could pass a day hardly anywhere filled with as much satisfaction as in poking and peering about in the churchyard of old St. James', Bristol.

R. L. M.

From, *Intelligence*

Durham

Date, *Aug 13 1895*

EARLY SETTLERS.

The Residents of Durham During the Revolution.

A Paper Prepared by William J. Buck,
And Read Before the Buckwampun
Historical Association at Durham, June
15, 1895.

In the course of recent researches I became impressed at the amount of original materials existing on this subject between the years 1775 and 1783; the information from which has been embodied in a brief paper to be read on this occasion from meeting on the very soil to which it relates. That I should have ever been enabled to render it as complete and within so short a time I could not have fancied. As a valuable and reliable contribution to the history of the township, is now respectfully offered, and no doubt may tend to correct some preconceived ideas thereon. I shall first touch on those to whom it is proposed to give the most space and desire it understood that of all not otherwise mentioned that their residence was here in 1776 and occasionally sometime earlier.

Thomas Pursell was the owner of a farm of 176 acres and on which he continuously resided as late as 1794. In 1791 had thereon a grist and saw mill and conducted a ferry. This was at the present village of Lehnburg formerly called Monroe. He no doubt made all the improvements on his purchase, having a front of 151 perches on the Delaware and lay nearly all south of Rodge's run, and known as No. 13, of the Durham tract division of 1773. 1775 he was appointed the first constable of Durham and without doubt the first settler and improver of the place. It is probable that he was the son of Dennis and Ruth Pursell, of Springfield, the owners and occupants of the Biehn homestead below Bursonville from 1753 to 1761. Adjoining Thomas on the north, Peter Pursell, his brother, lived on a tract of 164 acres, No. 12, extending to the river and is mentioned in 1776 as having "many children," hence some reason that the surname in this vicinity has not yet become extinct. They were

enterprising men and the name Dennis indicates an Irish origin.

Wendell Shank, or Schenck, settled early in the north west corner of Durham, and in 1774 purchased 225 acres on the Delaware, known as plot No. 32, on which he removed and likely made thereon the first improvements. In 1781 was collector of taxes for Durham and had a ferry established before 1786. The flourishing village of Riegelsville has since grown up on the Eastern portion of his tract. It appears by 1794 he had sold therefrom six acres. He had at least two sons, Anthony and Jacob, both single men in 1781, who conveyed for the Furnace iron and cannon balls on a Durham boat to Philadelphia and later had charge of the ferry where is now the said village. There they erected several houses, hence this family were the founders of this place.

Francis Wilson, the proprietor of a farm of 159 acres, was a signer to the petition, June 13, 1775, for the erection of Durham into a township. The following year he had living with him Samuel Ramsey, a single man. He was commissioned second lieutenant in Captain Heinline's company May 6, 1777, and was in active service. In 1730 George Wilson is mentioned as residing "near Durham, retailer of rum," and also as an "Indian trader." When the Indian walk was performed, September 19, 1737, it is stated that at noon said company arrived in the meadows of the aforesaid, then occupied by his widow, on which was Cook's creek, where they stopped fifteen minutes to dine. This, no doubt, was near the late John Houpt's mill, having come hither from the top of Gallows Hill (now Stony Point) by an Indian path and a line of blazed trees. The said Francis was likely his descendant. If so this is one of the pioneer families. James, David, Hugh and Robert Wilson are mentioned as employees of the iron works here between the years 1779 and 1787.

Henry Houpt owned at the Springfield line 402 acres, situated on both sides of Durham or Cook's creek, and was a signer for the township in 1775 and one of its first overseers of the poor. In 1786 his territory had increased to 430 acres. He held the office of assessor in 1782 and later years. In 1776 he had in his employ a servant and John Orr, a single man. This was long here a noted and well to do family, whose surname has recently become extinct.

Thomas Long was here at least as early as the beginning of 1776, and the possessor of 382 acres, and located near the centre of the township, a portion thereof being still retained by his descendants. He was an active patriot and a prominent office holder. He was appointed a justice of the peace in 1777 and continued therein to 1791, if not later. He was major of the Third Bucks County Battalion May 6, 1777, member of Assembly in 1778 and for several subsequent years, succeeding in 1784 as a county commissioner; also for several years assessor. He kept an indentured servant in his employ, besides Evau Pugh and Patrick O'Kane. In 1791 he was the owner of 489 acres, six horses and ten cattle. It was before him, during the Revolution, that many of the residents of Durham and neighboring townships gave in their allegiance to the new form of government. The Longs, like the Wilsons and Craigs, are of Scotch-Irish origin.

Thomas Craig was a renter of 327 acres and a signer for the erection of the township. He was a patriot and continued in Durham until 1790, if not later. He resided on plot No. 1, that lay on both sides of the creek for some distance down to its mouth. The middle and lower forges and the limestone cave were situated on this tract. His occupation appears to have been that of a farmer.

Henry Frey, or Fry, although a renter from 1775 does not appear to have owned any land until 1786, or only a short time before, when he became the possessor of 138 acres. The small stream that empties from the north side into the creek a short distance above the village of Durham was called after the family, still bearing the name of Fry's Run, and so denoted on a map in 1773. Joseph Fry, probably his son, was a teamster to Philadelphia for the iron works in 1780 and the following year. The surname does not now exist in the township.

Henry Knecht, or Knight, was the owner of 277 acres, known as plot No. 30 of the Durham tract, and lay nearly a mile west of Riegelsville. In 1776 he had in his employ John Mann. He was collector of taxes in 1781. His son Peter in said year resided on 142 acres. John, in 1794, on a place of similar size, and at the latter date there was a younger brother, George, of age. His descendants here are still substantial landholders.

Conrad Jacoby, prior to 1775 was the owner of 152 acres, located on the northeast side of Buckwampun hill adjoining the Springfield line. He was assessor of the township in 1780 and the following year. His possessions were increased to 190 acres in 1786. He had sons, Jacob, Peter and John. The first was, of age prior to 1781, the second in 1786 resided on a 68 acre tract, John in 1794 owned 100 acres and was collector of taxes for said year. Descendants still reside in Durham and Springfield where they have been continuous landholders.

George Heinline resided on a farm of 91 acres and was still thereon in 1794, and most likely sometime later. He was one of the signers for the township in 1775, and an early and active participant of the war for Independence. For his services he was commissioned captain, May 6, 1777, in the Third Bucks County Battalion and to the Second Battalion, May 10, 1780, continuing therein to almost the close of the following year. It is much

to be regretted that the muster rolls of said two companies have been lost.

Frederick Keyser had 145 acres, and continued on his farm down to 1782, if not later. It lay on both sides the old Durham road adjoining the Nockamixon line and the farm of Philip Kressler, being plot No. 19 of the Durham tract. Conrad and Michael Keyser, who resided in the township in 1780 and later, no doubt were his sons. This family is numerous in Nockamixon, dating back there prior to 1750.

Michael Deemer owned 165 acres, was an original signer for the township and a continuous resident on his farm down to 1786. He was a collector of taxes in Durham. Descendants of the family still remain in the vicinity.

George Taylor was one of the petitioners of Durham township in June, 1775, at which time he carried on the iron works and rented with it 2401 acres of land. He

owned three negro slaves and had in his employ Samuel Breckenridge and others. It was here in 1735, in his nineteenth year, that he was first engaged as a filler to the furnace, but through his education subsequently became clerk. He continued to reside here until about 1764, when he removed to Easton, where in 1776 he was elected to Congress and thus became a signer of the Declaration of Independence. While in Durham he dwelt in a large stone building known as the "Mansion House" on the map of 1773, which was kept later as an inn down to a recent time. In the fall of 1779 he relinquished the iron works and entered the service as colonel of a Northampton county regiment in which he continued until near his death, which occurred February 25, 1781.

Richard Backhouse, of whom we possess no earlier information than as the successor of George Taylor in the iron works, which he purchased in 1779 and carried on to about 1792. He was assessor in 1780 and a justice of the peace for several years. In 1783 he is mentioned as the owner of three negroes and 355 acres of land. Between the years 1779 and 1782 he appears to have carried on the works extensively, giving employment to a number of men through his having a government contract to supply the army and navy with a considerable quantity of shell and ball for the Revolutionary service. He died in 1793 and was unfortunate here in his financial affairs.

James Morgan, on the division of the Durham tract in 1773, carried on the iron works of which he was a share holder, and no doubt had it in charge for some time previously. In 1776 he was the owner of nine negroes, five of which a few years later ran away and escaped to the British in New York. At said date he was the possessor of 513 acres and we know continued to reside in the township down to 1783. There is reason to believe that he was continued superintendent of said works by George Taylor. His wife's name was Sarah and beyond this no record, we believe, has yet been produced of either his marriage, death or of his family, though a theme much written upon by local antiquaries. There was an Enoch Morgan residing in Durham in 1791 and the owner of 50 acres, but beyond this I can give no additional particulars.

Abel James, a distinguished merchant of Philadelphia, was one of the owners of the Durham tract and iron works on its division in 1773. In 1776 he still retained 223 acres thereof which were subsequently sold. He died in 1790, aged 66 years.

William Abbott was the owner of 205 acres adjoining on the south Thomas Pursell's tract and the river, being plot No. 14. He must have been early here as he was a signer for the township and erected on said purchase the first buildings, which soon after became a public house. He was still a resident in 1782.

Andrew Sigafos, or Surioos, lived on a lot of 11 acres on the north side of Durham creek adjoining Henry Houpt's land, where he was still residing in 1782. Michael Sigafos, supposed to be his brother, was also a resident in 1776 and with whom Jacob Stone had his home. The family was an early one in Springfield, where the surname still exists and in Nockamixon.

Daniel Stillwell was the renter of 165 acres, but prior to 1791 possessed 203 acres and a terry, the landing of which was near the Durham cave, the place being now covered over with cinder from the furnace. At the beginning of the war William Erwin resided with him and entered the service, and for meritorious conduct was promoted May 6, 1777, first lieutenant in Captain Heinline's company, wherein he remained for some time.

Michael Fackenthal was a resident of Durham in 1781 and four years later the owner of 205 acres. He was a lieutenant in Captain Valentine Opp's company in the New Jersey campaign of 1776, and ensign in Captain Heinline's company from May 10, 1780, until late in the fall of the following year. He applied for a pension, February 7, 1833, stating therein that he was aged 78 years, and had served in the Pennsylvania Militia. It was granted with an annual allowance of \$56.66, commencing with March 4, 1831.

He was a supervisor in 1801 and appointed justice of the peace, April 1, 1803. A son of Philip Fackenthal, of Springfield where he was born and first entered the army, died in Durham, January 21, 1846.

Robert Smith, though owning 148 acres, is reported "land poor." He resided thereon in 1781 and the previous year, did some farm work for Richard Backhouse. John Kohl's farm of 102 acres lay about a mile southeast of the village of Durham on which he was still living in 1789. He has descendants of the surname in the vicinity. Abraham Eddinger had 85 acres, and a son George over age in 1780. Edward Bell's tract of 193 acres fronted the river and lay adjoining north on the Wendell Shank's farm. We infer that Mary Bell was his widow in 1781, and his son Samuel a teamster said year for the iron works. Andrew Barnes had 100 acres, was collector of taxes in 1782 and assessor 1786.

The following continued residents on their farms down to 1782, and more or less later: Caspar Fabian, 123 acres; John Grisler, 140 acres; Jacob Clymer, petitioner for the township, in 1775, 100 acres; Jacob Hartzel, 138 acres; Patrick Burgen, represented as "old and poor," yet the owner of 334 acres; Widow Smith, 128 acres; Christian Pearson, 102, and of Michael Root no further mention than his name. John Riegle, in 1791, was a resident on a acres, indicating that this surname was not an early one in the township. We find a mention in 1781 of James Gordon, Henry Snyder, John Bucker and several others whom we have supposed were only transient laborers at the iron works.

From the aforesaid list I make out that during the period 1775-83, there were in the township thirty-three householders. This I am gratified to say is some test of our accuracy for it agrees exactly with the number of houses reported in 1784. The census of 1800 gives 405 inhabitants. Allowing six to a house, this would devote about 67 dwellings, showing a doubled increase in sixteen years. The census of 1890 a population of 1570, almost a quadrupled increase in ninety years. Of the thirty-three occupants in 1776, judging by their surnames about two-thirds were of German extraction, who at that time were chiefly farmers and hence must have done a great

deal in clearing the land rendering it fit for cultivation. Of those mentioned of English and Irish origin as far as positively ascertained, the descendants of the Pursells and Longs alone remain. Another evidence wherever the German and Briton have settled together, in indomitable perseverance the former has not been out done in his holding to the soil.

OLDEN TIME MILITIA.

A Paper Read by Miss Clara R. Laubach, of Riegelsville, before the Buckwampun Literary Association, at Durham, June 15th, 1895.

The militia system of the United States differs from every other country, on account of the people generally being opposed to standing armies. After the Revolutionary War the regular army was limited to the actual requirements, and was supplemented by a militia, which is defined, "the body of soldiers in a State enrolled for discipline but engaged in actual service only in emergencies, as distinguished from regular troops, whose sole occupation is war or military service." The Act approved April 6th, 1802, by Thomas McKean, Governor of Pennsylvania, divided the State into "division bounds." Bucks and Montgomery counties were one division, and the uniform or military dress of this State, for the infantry, light infantry and cavalry, a blue coat, faced with red, the lining and buttons thereof white; for the artillery, a blue coat, faced and lined with red, with yellow buttons; but the uniform of the general officers of the staff shall be blue, faced with buff, the regimental staff excepted, whose uniform may be that of the regiment to which they belong, and the cockade worn by the militia of this State shall be blue and red. No regiment was to consist of more than one thousand nor less than five hundred men, and the battalions in the same proportions. The regiments were numbered.

In the county of Bucks, the regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith (in 1802,) was No. 15, by Lieutenant-Colonel Piper, No. 31; by Lieutenant-Colonel Clunn, No. 32; and Lieutenant-Colonel Vansant, No. 48. The commissioned officers, infantry, light infantry, grenadiers and riflemen were required to be uniformed and armed at their own expense, and were trained and exercised in companies on the first Monday in May, and on the first and second Monday in October each year; and in regiments, the third week in May. Some of the companies were uniformed and some were not in uniform. The term of service of the uniformed men expired at the end of seven years. Those not uniformed were required to drill until they were forty-five years old. At the annual-Battalia-training of the militia, there assembled immense crowds, so dense that the militia often times were compelled to fire blank cartridge to make room for them to drill.

The roads leading to the place of training of the militia, early in the morning were filled with people, young and old,

"bound to see the fun." There were "lots of fun." After the training some of the soldiers and some others imbibed too freely, to some it happened before the training was over, and this generally resulted in a fight, which sometimes grew to large dimensions. And then there was the dancing; started early in the morning and kept up until late at night; nor did they dance as "gingerly" then as now; while dancing the Virginia reel, or the country jig, the heels of the heavy boots of the soldiers and country lads came down with a rhythm and a thud that made the building shake. It was a kind of a holiday. The hired man and maid, boys and girls were allowed to go, and all enjoyed themselves.

When we take into consideration the fact that the militia were required to train in companies, but three days in a year, and not exceeding six hours a day, we cannot expect the movements to have been very regular, graceful or exact; but it is a peculiarity, peculiar to this Nation, that when soldiers are needed, our militia, in a very short time, will make soldiers that will face an enemy as bravely as blood and steel can face. All our wars have been fought by the militia. True, the last war continued for such a length of time, that the soldiers were called regulars, or veterans; but the recruits were militia. It was the militia that fought the battles during the Revolutionary war, and started into existence the greatest of Nations, whose heart beats with a mighty throb, the energy of which is felt over the entire world.

From, *Democrat*

Doylestown Pa

Date, *Aug 29 1895*

A CURIOUS AND INTERESTING STONE.

A Supposed Indian Relic of Great Historic Value.

In the yard adjoining the residence of Jere Kustler, on the Lehigh Hills, in Northampton county, Pa., may be seen a very interesting and curiously-formed stone. It is about two feet in height, with a base fourteen inches square, topped off with a well outlined neck and head; nose about six inches in length, well-proportioned; sunken eyes and ears of the imaginative order. Taking the obelisk all in all, it presents a unique and striking resemblance to primitive art objects or nature's mimicry of human busts.

Judging from the locality where found, it is evident that primitive man and his successors utilized it for idolatrous purposes, being discovered in the Lehigh

river near extensive crematories and old Indian burying grounds and camping places. Geologically the stone or image was carved out of a trappean boulder, which are found in places among the granitic hills some distance south of the Lehigh.

The Lehigh Hills, for a distance of 10 or 15 miles west of the Delaware and south of the Lehigh River, are rich in archaeological relics, and when the numerous and instructive finds shall be fully classified and properly placed, a comprehensive history of primitive man and his successors may be evolved, showing how nature in its slow, but sure, evolutionary efforts in differentiating the various stages of humanity during the successive ages of the occupancy of the American Continent had gradually brought man up to the higher or neolithic stage of culture, as evidenced by the red Indians when the Continent was discovered by the Europeans.

While we do not claim that this curious and now water-worn freak was actually carved into its present shape, it is a well-known fact that primitive man, having a superstitious nature, often made use of natural objects to carry out his purposes, and many objects that are known to have been utilized by prehistoric man either for sacrificial or utilitarian purposes should be very carefully labelled and always open to general criticism.

CHAS. LAUBACH.

From, *Intelligencer*
Doyles Town Pa

Date, *Aug 31, 1895*

LOCAL HISTORY.

Early Land Owners in Hilltown Township.

The Mathias Family and Homestead in Hilltown—John Mathias, the Immigrant—Thomas Mathias—Rev. Joseph Mathias, the Baptist Preacher—Newton Rowland.

The old Mathias homestead, in Hilltown, was in the northern part of that township, about a mile west of Dublin. The Bethlehem road passed along its western side and formerly divided the plantation. The whole country hereabouts slopes to the northward towards the East Branch of the Perkiomen. The soil is somewhat wet and clayey. A meadow rivulet passes northward in

front of the buildings to meet larger streams. Twenty years ago there remained considerable woodland, and along the fences was a considerable growth of bushes and many cherry trees. The place was prolific of fruit, of pears near the house and of the black cherry all about the farm. Here, at some distance from the highway, are the farm buildings, comprising a modern barn and the large stone house, built in two portions in the long past Colonial times. The larger western end bears the date of 1768 and the initials of Thomas Mathias. The eastern end is supposed to have been built as early as 1750. The barn was built by the late Newton Rowland. These, together with 79 acres, part of the original tract, now belong to Peter Yoder.

JOHN MATHIAS.

The American ancestor of the family bearing this name, in Hilltown and other townships, was John Mathias. He was born about 1675, in Nevern Parish, Pembrokeshire, South Wales. This forms a peninsula jutting out into the Irish channel. He continued living in the old country till twice married. The name of his first wife is unknown. She had a daughter, Anna, who did not come to America with her father, but remained in Wales, where she died at a great age in 1800. The second wife of John Mathias was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Morgan. The time of the emigration to America was about 1722 or 1723. A daughter, Mary, was born in Wales and was a few months old on arriving here. Shortly after arriving here John Mathias, Thomas Morgan, Thomas Phillips and other Welshmen settled in Franconia, on land whereon part of the town of Souderton now stands.

The locality where they resided for some years is still pointed out, and was known as "Welshtown" by the Germans of Franconia. This was a valley lying deep between opposite elevations. This begins to slope near the county line and running southwest is crossed just above Souderton station by the railroad on an embankment of fifty feet in height. On the northwest side of this slope was the locality of old Welshtown. The vale abounds in springs, strong, cool and steady, and it is in this valley, traversed through its centre by a highway that are the sources of the Skippack. The exact location of two ancient dwellings are known. One of these of logs stood on the brow of the farther slope on the line of the North Penn railroad, and of course was demolished at the time of the building of the latter in 1855. The other was of stone, twenty feet square, which stood part way up the slope which gradually rises from the highway and was on land now or recently owned by Christopher Huntsberger. A few small trees stand near, while the spot where the old house stood is clearly defined by wild flowers (yellow crocuses) which grow nowhere else in the vicinity, but on this site. Here they expand in golden bloom every summer amid the grasses of the meadow bank. This ancient dwelling was demolished before the memory of those now living. Farther up the valley northeastward, was the old "Welsh Orchard," a few sturdy trees of which now exist, situated on land, now or recently owned by Samuel Moyer.

Rev. Joseph Mathias, in his family

history, says that he can find no proof that his grandfather was a land holder anywhere. Morgan, Mathias and others, were probably squatters or tenants here perhaps for a dozen years, or till George Cressman bought the tract in 1734, which originally covered a thousand acres, the east corner of Francoia. The children of John Mathias by his second wife were six, viz: Mary, born in Wales; Griffith, born in 1727; Thomas, born in 1730; Mathew, born in 1732; John, born in 1734, and David, born in 1737. Sometime after 1740, John Mathias married a third wife whose name was Jane Simons, of White-marsh. This was an unlucky match and they did not live long together. John Mathias was not fortunate in worldly prosperity, as he was a poor man towards the close of his life, which ended in Hilltown in 1748. He left four sons under age. His administrators were Jacob Griffith, Thomas Phillips and Thomas Thomas.

THOMAS MATHIAS.

It would be a long story to trace the line of descent of all the posterity of John Mathias. For the purposes of this sketch we will confine the account to one single branch, that of Thomas, who came to own the homestead under consideration. Thomas Mathias learned the mason trade and wrought at it for many summers, even until old age, although he owned a large plantation which would necessarily demand his attention a part of the time. He, however, hired hands by the year, month or day to attend to the concerns of his farm in his absence. The walls of the mansion house on his farm are doubtless his handiwork, and the honest workmanship in their building has been attested by their long endurance in good condition. He was an expert and vigorous workman. His son relates that whilst he was a young man and later when in the prime of life, he was a leader among his fellows in parties gathered to fell trees, clear land and in the heavy labor of grubbing up bushes and roots. He possessed such vivacity and exuberance of spirits that he would be sure to keep any company in quick motion and good humor.

The wife of Thomas Mathias was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Martha Jones, of Hilltown. The date of this marriage was between 1750 and 1753. In 1758 he bought the property whereon his latter life was spent. This had been granted in 1746 by John Penn, Sr., to Bartholomew Young. The preamble recites that in 1735 John Penn sold 238½ acres to his nephew, John Penn, Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania. This, by a mistake of survey was returned as the share or allotment of Richard Penn, father of said John Penn. In 1748 Lynfred Lardner, attorney for John Penn, Sr., granted the land to Bartholomew Young, who in 1749 conveyed to Thomas Phillips. Possibly Phillips made the first improvements, but he only held possession nine years, as in 1758 he sold to Thomas Mathias. Phillips was a near relative, being the husband of Joan Mathias, a half sister of Thomas Mathias. He bought a tract in Hilltown where his life was spent, which later became the Licey homestead. His sons all removed elsewhere. The boundaries of the 238½ acres in 1758 were: "Beginning at post in line of land intended to be granted to

Thomas Kidd, but now of Philip High; by then Jacob Moyer northeast 223 perches; then by James Hamilton's southeast 160 perches to a post in line of Griffith Owen; then by same southwest 232 perches; then by Philip High northwest 169 perches to beginning." The price paid was £250, 15 shillings. Ebenezer Owen and Griffith Owen were the witnesses. It will be seen that this was a right angled tract of about three-quarters of a mile from southwest to northeast, by one-half a mile wide.

Thomas Mathias engaged in clearing and improving this land, and in 1768

erected one of those substantial dwellings, characteristic of that time, and which attested the comparative prosperity of the people just prior to the Revolution. His name appears among the list of Non-Associators in 1775, though his brother John belonged to the Militia company. Thomas and Elizabeth Mathias were the parents of ten children, five of whom died young. The five that grew up were Thomas, born December 16, 1762; Elizabeth, born September 12, 1765; Abel, born January 24, 1768; John, born December 4, 1774, and Joseph, born May 8, 1778.

The people of those times were believers in ghosts and apparitions. Rev. Joseph Mathias, has preserved two of these tales, though protesting that he himself was not credulous in regard to such things. They related to his own family. One of his sisters was named Martha. She was sent from home for the purpose of going to school. One Saturday after she came home her mother was about taking her bread out of the oven. Martha was standing by. One of the loaves was split open on the upper side, which circumstance was considered ominous. Her mother remarked that there would be a burying before that baking was all eat. Martha returned to school as usual, but about the middle of the week she died even before the baking was consumed. Another death of a child followed a presentiment that happened in this fashion. He and his wife started one morning before daylight to go to Philadelphia with a wagon and a horse, leaving a young child at home. In the darkness of the morning a little before day as they were going over the hill near where is now Frick's store they passed into the woods below, which was thick and dark. Here they discovered a light coming towards them. It came still nearer. The mother inquired "What is that?" and became alarmed. Thomas said nothing for a moment, but presently it came in front of the horse's head, and near to them. Thomas then spoke audibly "Who is there?" But there was no answer. It then passed from before them and vanished out of sight. Their minds were somewhat agitated, but they went on to Philadelphia. On their return next day Thomas Jones came to meet them with the information that their child was dead. They were firmly impressed with the belief that the light they saw betokened the calamity that followed.

Thomas Mathias, the father of the above family, died on the 29th of April, 1799, at the age of 69. He was a man widely known and sincerely lamented by all who knew him. His widow survived him till old age, out-living all but two of her children, and to know a host of grandchildren. She resided on the

ancestral property with her youngest son, Joseph. She died after one week's illness, on the 15th of December, 1821, in her 86th year. She had been a member of Hilltown Baptist Church for sixty-one years.

Before the death of Thomas Mathias we have record that he sold off fifty-three acres in 1796 to Jacob Moyer for £537. Doubtless there had been other portions detached, for after his death in 1800 there was only 129 acres out of the original 238 left, and which was purchased by his son, Joseph. At that time it was wholly surrounded by landholders with German names—Daniel High, Jacob Moyer, Isaac Kolb, Philip High and David High.

We have not space in this connection to trace the history and genealogy of the children of Thomas Mathias, who removed from the homestead. Thomas, Jr., was a merchant and farmer in Hilltown, and became wealthy for those times. Elizabeth married Isaac Morris, and her son, Mathias Morris, became one of the eminent men of Bucks county. He was a lawyer, was a member of the State Senate in 1829, and chosen to Congress in 1834. Higher honors awaited him had not death come in 1839.

REV. JOSEPH MATHIAS

Was the youngest son of Thomas Mathias, born in 1778. He took the homestead where he lived till near the close of his busy life. He married Dinah, daughter of Benjamin Mathews, Esq., of New Britain. He began his vocation as a preacher in 1805. He had charge of Hilltown church besides frequently supplying New Britain and other churches. With a tolerable education, he had no special training for the ministry. He possessed a vigorous and sprightly mind, and in his career as minister and farmer he partly ministered to his own wants by the labor of his industrious hands. On Tuesday, October 5th, 1833, he had the honor of preaching the introductory sermon before the Philadelphia Association. His jubilee sermon, preached January 1st, 1832, has been printed. It was an interesting and able discourse, containing much historical information concerning the previous half century of the Hilltown church. His mind dwelt much upon local history and family genealogy. During leisure moments he collected a large manuscript volume of such facts which were of exceeding value to those who came after him. Of social habits, he was fond of visiting his relatives and all the families of his church, and was ever busy collecting information. Fond of travel and change, he utilized these tastes by acting as a missionary in widely different directions throughout this State, and many vigorous churches elsewhere had their foundations laid through the instrumentality of his preaching.

In 1845 Mr. Mathias bought a property in New Britain, near Chalfont, whereon he remodeled a large house, thither he removed, and where his death took place March 10th, 1851. He had been on a traveling tour of preaching to Point Pleasant, and returned in his usual health. The end of his life came in the small hours of the night. A large funeral attended his mortal remains to the Lower Hilltown graveyard, to repose beside his wife and ancestors near the church

where he had loved to preach and concerning whose history he had written so much and so well. Dinah, his widow, was blessed with great length of days, surviving till 1870, at the great age of ninety three.

Of the eight children of Joseph Mathias, several died when young people. Harvey lived near Chalfont, where his father's latter years was past. He was a prosperous farmer and justice of the peace. His death occurred in 1852. His wife was Sarah, sister of the late Dr. O. P. James, of Doylestown. Rachael was a well-known maiden lady. John kept store at Carversville for many years, and from thence removed to his father's place near Chalfont. He served as postmaster to the State Senate at Harrisburg.

Elizabeth Mathias was the one who remained at the Hilltown homestead. She married Newton Rowland, son of William H. Rowland, in 1829. They had a family of daughters—Asenatte, Melvina, Sarah, Matilda and Emily. These as a family, were the flower and fruit of many generations of sprightly, upright and intelligent ancestors; refined, companionable, cultivated, and most of them highly educated. There remains but one now living, Mrs. Melvina Frear, of Wilkesbarre, widow of Rev. George Frear, a Baptist clergyman of that city. Asenatte became the wife of Lemuel Taylor. Sarah married Rev. Samuel Cox, another Baptist preacher. Matilda married a Mr. Loomis, a college professor; and Emily was the wife of Rev. Thomas R. Evans, a native of Wales, for some years pastor of the Baptist church at West Conshohocken, and where his wife died.

Elizabeth (Mathias) Rowland, the mother of the above family, died March 27, 1882, at the age of 72. Her husband sold the old farm in 1884, comprising the 79 remaining acres to Peter Yoder, the present owner, it being part of 121 acres, which in 1850 Rowland had bought of his father-in-law, Rev. Joseph Mathias. Of this tract Rowland had in 1853 sold off 29 acres with a house on it to John Kratz. With the sale to Yoder in 1884 the homestead passed from the descendants of Thomas Mathias after an ownership of 126 years. Newton Rowland died in the village of Dublin in 1893 at the advanced age of eighty-seven.

OLD ST. JAMES' CHURCH.

An Historical Landmark Down in
Bristol.

MANY MEMORABLE ASSOCIATIONS

The Records Give Up Some Interesting
Facts of the Early History of the Church—
Original Edifice Used as a Cavalry Stable
During the Revolutionary War.

Somewhat of the relation which historic
Christ Church, in Philadelphia, holds to the
Province of Pennsylvania does the venerable

St. James' Church, of Bristol, bear to Buckingham (now Bucks) county. The church edifice of this latter was completed exactly seventeen years after that of the Philadelphia parish. From its deeds, vestry minutes and other manuscripts we are enabled to gather a fair knowledge of its colonial origin and history.

In 1690 George Keith, the distinguished

fair idea of the town itself as it was at that period and an interesting glimpse of its pioneer inhabitants. Turning the title page we come to the grant which furnishes quaint and valuable indication of the manner in which early deeds were drawn in Pennsylvania. It is addressed: "To All Christian People." The grantor therein declares that the land is to be held in trust for the use of the church, without any manner of challenge, claim or demand from the grantor



ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BRISTOL.

Friend, sailed for England, a convert to Anglo-Catholicism, to return twelve years later as a missionary of the Church of England. In 1701 the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was organized in London, and in the following year Keith was chosen as its first messenger to the American Colonies. His mission was to spread the teachings of the Gospel along the eastern shores of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. On the British man-of-war which bore Keith to America was a chaplain named Talbot, who became so enthusiastic over Keith's plans that he was permitted to be his companion in the work. The fall of 1702 found the

(Anthony Burton). It names as trustee: "The Minister for the time being for ever." The first trustee to hold the legal title was Rev. Robert Weyman, rector at the time the instrument was executed. Then, as was the custom, the grantor warrants the title and Mathew W. Rue and Thomas Worrall (two vestrymen) witness the document and Anthony Burton has affixed his signature. Beside the seal of the county is the name of "Lawrence Growdon, Esq., one of the Justices, etc., for the County of Bucks."

THE ORIGINAL CHURCH.

The edifice erected on the land thus given, through the financial assistance of Burton,

A couple at anchorage on the Delaware, off Burlington, their voyage happily finished. Talbot became so much attracted by St. Mary's, at Burlington, or Burlington-towne, as it was then called, and he concluded to devote the remainder of his life there, ministering to the parishes of Burlington and Bristol, the latter being one which he and Keith had organized.

THE HUMBLE BEGINNING.

The first to come to Bristol was Keith, who obtained valuable assistance from Anthony Burton and John Rowland, extensive land owners, who had formerly been of the Friends persuasion. Burton and Rowland (the latter came over on the Welcome with Penn), gave their time and means to build up this ancient parish. The former, about 1710, gave Talbot a valuable tract to the north of what was then the only road in Bristol, the King's Highway—now known as Radcliffe street. Upon this ground was built a small church, which was completed in 1712, and at that time was situated in a wood on a lane just beyond the first Friends' meeting house.

The only information we have regarding the origin of the building is to be found on the title page of "Book 2, St. James' Church, New Bristol" (which contains the minutes of the vestry). Here is the inscription:—

"The Proceedings of the Vestry of
"ST. JAMES' CHURCH,
"New Bristol.

"In the County of Bucks and Province of
"PENNSYLVANIA.

"THIS CHURCH was built by Subscription of sevl. well disposed persons and being finished was dedicated to the honour of St.

This precious volume, which is in the keeping of the present rector, Rev. William Bryce Morrow, contains the vestry minutes from 1712 to 1776 and from 1806 to 1832 inclusive. A glance over its pages gives one a Rowland, the De Normandies and others, was one story high and composed of brick and stone. The church, if such it could be called, faced the east, and the chancel contained but two articles—a plain communion table and a reading desk. At the rear of the church was the pulpit, underneath which stood the chair of the "clarke." The nave at first contained but ten pews. In the walls on either side were two small windows, filled with panes of ordinary glass. The first pew, directly under the reading desk, was reserved in the grant to the use of Anthony Burton and his heirs and assigns forever. Under this pew Burton, upon his decease, was interred. A small spire rose above the nave.

From the date of the church's consecration until 1733 there is no record of the progress of the little parish, although the church was continuously in use, and the congregation under the pastoral care of missionaries of the venerable society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The first minutes of the vestry extant begin with the exclamation, "Laus Deo!" and continue:—

"The Parishioners being met, Present the Rev. Mr. Robert Weyman. By the Majority of Voices elected for the Ensuing Year." Matthew Rue and Francis Gaudout are chosen church wardens, "And the following Persons to constitute ye Vestry: Mr. John Abraham De Normandie, Mr. William Hope, Mr. John Anthony De Normandie, Mr. John



THE OLD CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

James the Greater (the festival of that apostle being ye 25th day of July).

ANNO DOMI, 1712.

"The land appropriated for a Church Yard and Burying Ground is thus described:—"etc.—"Given by Anthony Burton, Gent., for the Use and purpose aforesaid, according to the following Grant or Deed of Gift, to the minister of the said Church for the time being for ever."

Bessonett, Mr. William Gregory, Mr. William Silverstone, Mr. Evan Harris, Mr. Matthias Keene, Mr. John Williams, Mr. Jonathan Bourne, Mr. Thomas Worrall." The Vestry placed Mr. Weyman's salary, for the year, at £10, and engaged one Samuel Watkins as "Clarke."

At the vestry meeting in the following year the minutes say that it was "Agreed that the present Ch. Wardens employ a proper person to enclose the Communion-Table

with decent Rails, and to make such necessary Repairs as now appear to be wanting to the Church and Church House." By a subsequent record we find that these "Rails" cost 11 shillings!

INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS.

Passing to the year 1736 we find that "The Parishioners being mett, Present the Rev'd William Lindsay, Minister for the Time being, elected and chosen for ye Ensuing year." The minister's salary was increased to £24. John Abraham De Normandie and John Bessonett are named as church wardens. This latter gentleman was a Huguenot who came to Bristol in 1731 and was the proprietor of then famous King George Hotel on the King's Highway. In 1739 it was by the vestry "Agreed that ye Present Church

be appropriated to that use, and If that Is not suffisient then the Church lay their acco'ts Before the Vestry to Consider furdur etc." The debt mentioned amounted to £27.

Mr. Lindsay was succeeded in 1842 by Rev. Colin Campbell. This gentleman was a grandson of the High Sheriff of Nairn, and married the daughter of Justice Bard of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

In 1743 that immense vestry room (11x16 ft.!) was not completed, at this time the colonial parishioners resolved to "get ye church whitewashed," and likewise ten years later ordered that the pews "be rated in a just proportion to the quantity of Ground the said several Pews shall take." The country parsons were not unlike those of to-day in some respects. In 1755 the vestry concluded to fix the amount due the missionary and the meek man agreed to labor among them for three years for a recompense of £10 per year.

At the expiration of that time he had received but £11, leaving £19 still unpaid. Ten years prior to the Revolution Rev. Colin Campbell died, and the Rev. Mr. O'dell, a surgeon in the British Army, took his place. The last record we find of the colonial days of the parish is that of the Summer preceding the anno mirabilis, 1776. Naturally both Mr. O'dell and Mr. Lewis, then pastor of St. Mary's, sided with the Crown and thence St. James' was left without a spiritual guide. The minutes of this year (1775) are hastily written, the only thing at all noteworthy contained therein being this: "Agreed that the Space of Ground which lies immediately betwixt the Pulpit and Mr. Anthony Burton's Pew shall be set apart for a Public Pew for the accommodation of Strangers resorting to this place."

A CAVALRY STABLE.

In 1776, as a late rector has said, "the church was soon deserted and desecrated in becoming a stable for the horses of the American cavalry." After the Revolution the former house of God was used as a barn, and during this period it was consumed by fire. The country church yard even as late as 1803 must have been, to say the least, desolate, for in that year the dying request of a parishioner was that he be not "buried in that neglected ground." Half a century earlier (in 1758) Graydon wrote, "And on a still more retired spot stood a small Episcopal church, whose lonely graveyard, with its surrounding wood scenery might have furnished an appropriate theme for such a muse as Gray's."

At the organization of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, in 1785, the parish was represented in the person of Christopher Merriek. It has had since its reviving in 1806, to the present time, eighteen rectors, some of whom have been men of note in the

Episcopal Church of America.

In a secluded spot south of where the little church stood lie the remains of the De Normandies. This family held feudal tenures in the province of Champagne. For several centuries the eldest male in the direct line bore the title of "Lord de la Motte." Some of the descendants drifted to Switzerland, and to America came in 1706 Andre De Normandie in the role of a persecuted and fugitive Huguenot. Andre was accompanied by his two sons, John Abraham and John Anthony. The father died in 1724 and the headstone raised over his mortal remains bears this inscription:—

"ANDREW DE NORMANDIE
"Dyed ye 12th of Dec'r
"1724, Aged 73 years."

On either side lies the dust of two sons: Anthony, who died in the Spring of 1748, and Abraham, who followed his brother ten years later. Each of these brothers occupied the office of church warden for a short period.

Hard by the graves of this princely family is the resting place of one concerning whom we have no record save that found on her tombstone, as follows: "Here lyeth the body of SARAH BULLOCK Mother of Thos. Sugar of the city of Philadelphia Carpenter who Departed this Life Augy 16th, 1734, Aged 34 years & Six monthes."

On the reverse is rudely carved a skull and beneath it is the following:—

"Who e'er thou art, with tender beart,
Stay, Read and think of mee,
As thou art now so once was i
As i am now so shalt thou be."

This is the second oldest stone that is fully decipherable.

A few paces to the right of the walk leading to the vestibule of the church edifice is a humble piece of marble, about four and one-half feet high, which bears the following record:—

"Sacred to the memory of
ANTONIN FURCY PICQUET,
Capt. of the French Navy and
Consul of France for the states of
Massachusetts, New Hampshire and
Maine.

Born in France in the year 1777.
Died in Bristol, August 31, 1815.

Requiescat in pace.

This old gentleman carried in his body a bullet received in a duel fought in France prior to his journey to America. Alongside of his remains are interred those of his femme de charge.

NOTABLES OF THE DEAD PAST.

Just north of where the first church stood is the grave of Captain John Clarke, of the British Troops. The memory of Clarke is worth a passing note. He was a distinguished soldier, who, a few years before the Revolution settled on Badger's Island, south of Bristol. At one time the captain was a worshipful master in the Bristol lodge of the Masonic Order. Farther on lies the body of John Green, a captain in the American navy who first had the honor to carry our flag on a voyage around the world. He brought to America the first batch of Shanghai fowls. Near the grave of Green is that of John Sharp, captain Tenth United States Infantry.

Rumor has it that Sharp, while in command of his regiment above the borough, in 1798, became infatuated with a woman named Sarah McElroy, as did also a quartermaster of his regiment. The enraged captain challenged his inferior to a duel, the outcome of which is apparent by the stone erected to his memory. The officer fell a the second fire. Sarah McElroy died unmarried and her grave is close to that of he.

impetuous lover, John Sharp. In the early part of the present century came a Prussian nobleman, Baron Ludwig Niedesteeter, with his Baroness Hortense and their infant, Ludwig, to Summer at the Bath Springs, then the Carlsbad of America. Whilst sojourning there the son succumbed to a fever and is buried a few yards distant from the fatally attractive maiden, Sarah.

Among a score of other stones worthy of mention are noted a marble in memory of Elizabeth, relict of William Hewson. William Hewson, F. R. S., prior to his departure for America was a professor of anatomy in an English university. A small headstone bears the name of George Gillespie, who died in 1781. He was the Grandfather of the present Bishop of Western Michigan, Right Rev. George De Normandie Gillespie, D. D. The great English actor, Thomas Cooper, after being shamefully driven from the London playhouses, ended his days in Bristol. He built a house on Radcliffe street, overlooking the Delaware, which is now the residence of Mrs. Richard Henry Morris. Cooper was for several years a vestryman of St. James, and at his decease was interred in the parish churchyard. Not a stone's throw from the tomb of Cooper lies another representative of the English stage, John Henry, who in 1794, was carried away by consumption.

His remains are interred in a leaden casket. Upon the top of the vault is a thin marble slab bearing his name, the date of his death and an enumeration of his virtues which latter would occupy a page or two of foolscap. Beneath a large shaft of granite rests the mortal body of David Landreth, the father of the seed industry in America. The body of Rowland Stephens was interred

in this ground. Stephens was a wealthy London banker and for a time represented his country in the House of Commons.

Within a few months the parish sexton in digging a fresh grave brought his spade in contact with something hard. Upon examination he found, at a depth of about four feet, the bones of two peculiarly large men. By those acquainted with the early history of the country, they are believed to be the remains of Revolutionary patriots. People with an antiquarian bent of mind could pass a day hardly anywhere filled with as much satisfaction as in poking and peering about in the churchyard of old St. James', Bristol.

R. L. M.

DURHAM VILLAGE.

A Sketch of the Historic Hamlet in the Upper End.

A Paper Read by Miss Fannie J. Simpson, of Durham, Before the Buckwampun Literary and Historical Association, at Durham, June 15, 1895.

Durham village is situated near the centre of the township, about two miles from the Delaware river. It has a beautiful location; through it runs the Durham creek, a useful and pretty stream, furnishing water power for the mill and fishing and swimming facilities for the

men and boys. Back of the town rises Mine hill, erstwhile lively with the shouts of miners and teamsters digging and hauling away its treasures of iron ore; but now, alas, given over to nearly its original solitude.

Two roads meet in the centre of the village, the Springtown road and the old Philadelphia and Easton road, thus making two streets. The town consists of nineteen dwelling houses, a store, mill, blacksmith, wheelwright and shoemaker shops, a creamery and hotel. It has a population of 91 persons.

The place was, and is, by the oldest inhabitants, known by the name of Durham town. The Longs have always been prominent people here and from them it took its name. Since the Durham post office was moved here in 1876, it has been gradually acquiring the name of Durham, although it will be sometime yet before the old name sinks into oblivion.

Not long since a gentleman from Philadelphia, wishing to visit the place, inquired the way to Durham at Riegelville. No one appeared to know what place he meant, but, at last, advised him to try Longtown or Bachman's store. He started to do so, and when he got to Rattlesnake, a suburb of Durham by the way, he again inquired the way of two men who seemed to be having a good-natured dispute. They knew where the place was and directed him, but requested him in return to settle the question under discussion, which was as to whether the sun or earth revolved. He did so, apparently to their satisfaction, and passed on wondering if they were fair samples of the citizens of Durham and vicinity. It is needless to say he found they were not.

Durham is quite a business centre with its mill, store, shops and creamery.

The mill stands near the centre of the village, and its race is the delight of the children, but adds considerably to the anxiety of the mothers, as several small tots have taken unexpected plunges into it, but so far with no serious results.

The mill stands on the site of the old Durham furnace, which was blown out in 1792, and torn down in 1819 to make way for the mill built by Mr. Long. In digging the foundation a large lump of iron, weighing from six to eight tons was encountered, and, as it was impossible to move it, a pit was dug by its side and the iron lowered into it, so the mill stands on a solid foundation. It has passed through several hands. Mr. Hought owned it after Mr. Long, then Jacob Fulmer, after him Benjamin Riegel, who sold it to his son John and son-in-law, John Knecht, for one dollar. David Bachman bought it in 1874 or '75 of the latter parties for his son, Reuben K. It was run by Bachman & Lerch for some years, and then was known as Bachman & Bro.'s mill. The Bachmans sold it to its present owner, George Riegel, in 1888.

The store is very old, as there was a store here during the time of the furnace in connection with it. Thomas McKean kept the last furnace store, and after the death of Richard Backhouse he and William Long established one for themselves at what is now the site of Henry Stover's house. The store was soon after moved to a stone building which stood opposite the present hotel, and was kept by S. F. Long from 1825 to '33. Somewhere about

this time it was again moved to its present site. Henry Krum owned it from 1833 to '35, when he failed. If a story we hear of one of the old-time store keepers is true we cannot much wonder at failures. Some say this was a Springtown store keeper, and whether Springtown or Durham, I can't say, but this is the story: This particular man, so the tale goes, bought eggs at twelve cents a dozen and sold them for ten, and when asked how he could do that replied: "Oh, he sold so many he could afford to do it." After Krum, William Witte was the next to take it in charge, from 1835 to '40. He was quite a prominent man, at one time running for the nomination of Governor of Pennsylvania and almost making it, and afterward becoming editor of the *Commonwealth*. He was succeeded in the store by Christian Witte, from 1840 to '43. He by Jacob Applegate, from 1843 to '46. It then passed into the hands of William Steckel. The Steckels, William and Samuel, one or both, had it in their possession until 1861, when Reuben K. Bachman bought it. William Steckel put up the second building, which stood somewhat to the left of the present building. When the third and last building was put up by Mr. Bachman, in '65, the old building was moved back and is now used as a warehouse. Mr. Bachman took his brother George into partnership in '71, and the store remained in their hands until March, '95, when Hon. C. E. Hindenach and brother bought it and took possession.

It is considered one of the best store stands in the county, and, of late years, has been entered and robbed several times.

The most notable robbery occurred in 1879, when five burglars forced an entrance, and after overpowering and gagging the clerks, who slept above the store, and handcuffing and abusing George W. Bachman, secured about \$2,500 worth of merchandise and money.

One of the burglars was captured and sent to the Eastern Penitentiary for seven years, but the others escaped.

During the time of the furnace the managers established a mail service here, but this was discontinued in 1836.

In 1876, the Monroe post office was removed to Durham and Hon. R. K. Bachman appointed postmaster. When he was elected to Congress, his brother took his place in '79, and remained postmaster until Mr. Hindenach was appointed in the spring of '95.

Before '76 the mail was brought from Riegelsville by private carriers and distributed from the store.

The blacksmith and wheelwright shops have been established many years. In olden times the wheelwright shop stood under the old sycamore tree near the race. On its present site was once a tailor shop, afterward used as a shoemaker shop by Philip Traugh. The Hollenbachs, Edward and Granville, bought that and the blacksmith shop in '89. They have since built two additions to the wheelwright shop and are doing a flourishing business.

The creamery is a comparatively new enterprise. The building was put up by George Riegel in 1889. It was sold to David Stern and run by him for some time, but came again into Mr. Riegel's hands and is now run by his son, Ervin, and Harl Wasser.

The house on the farm of Mrs. Boyer,

now occupied by Mr. Hiukle, was and is known as the old Mansion House. It was probably the residence of the superintendent during the time of the furnace, and was afterward used as a hotel for many years. The elections were held there a number of years since 1812. James Backhouse was the first landlord and Joseph Rensimer the last. In the spring of 1871 it was happily closed as a hotel and put to other uses.

The first school house was situated in the western part of the town beyond Charles Wasser's place. It was taken down in 1792 but the foundation may be seen there yet. The present school house is on the other side of the creek to the northwest of the village, and is a modern two-story brick building to accommodate primary and grammar schools.

Davis' history states that "the village in 1872 consisted of eight dwelling houses and sixteen taxables." Since then it has grown and improved greatly, especially within the last seven or eight years. Several of the old buildings have been torn down and new ones erected in their places notably the Steckel's old cabinet shop where the present hotel stands, also the old stone building opposite the hotel once used as the store. Another ancient stone house stood where George Riegel has put up his commodious dwelling. Before this Hon. R. K. Bachman erected his handsome brick house to the right of the store; and since seven pretty frame houses has gone up in the western part of the town, altogether making it a fresh and modern looking place of which its citizens are justly proud.

Among our prominent people of the present day are our physician, Dr. W. S. Rice, our veterinary surgeon and constable, Charles Wasser, our ex-United States Representative, R. K. Bachman, our ex-State Legislator, Hon. C. E. Hindenach, in fact I don't know when to stop, as in our own eyes, at least, we are all prominent.

It has been remarked by a visitor to the place that the air seems to have a singular effect, and any one settling for any length of time here, finds it almost impossible to get away, and if, with a great effort, he succeeded in so doing, he in all his after life looks back with longing eyes to the "Happy Valley."

But, all joking aside, the people are peaceful and contented, and the village a busy and prosperous little place. Teams are constantly coming and going from store, mill, shops and creamery. In the morning the humming of the creamery separator makes merry music, while all day may be heard the whirr of the mill and the clink of the blacksmith's hammer.

In conclusion we hope, in future years, the village will go on improving until it becomes one of the largest and most progressive towns in the county.

From,

Philadaph

Date,

Sept 15/95

THE DOYLESTOWN GUARDS

HOW THE FIRST COMPANY FROM BUCKS COUNTY TOOK
THE FIELD ON THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR.

A RECORD OF PATRIOTISM.

As time passes every scrap of information relating to the War of the Rebellion becomes of inestimable value, and is sought after with the greatest eagerness. With a majority of the people the war has passed into history, and the surviving participants are thought to belong to a former generation. One of the most interesting chapters of this great struggle is the period embracing the events transpiring immediately after the fall of Sumter, and which emphasized in a remarkable degree the patriotism of the loyal North.

When the news reached the rural districts the people sprang to arms with an alacrity never surpassed, and can hardly be equaled in the future in the most pressing emergency; and it is refreshing, after the lapse of a third of a century, to recall with what cheerfulness men, of every class and rank in life, laid down their civil pursuits and took up arms. If we may judge by their actions, each individual citizen supposed the defense of the Union rested on his own shoulders, and that he would be held responsible for its preservation.

In the following page we purpose to tell the story of what took place at Doylestown, (1) Pa., in the days immediately following the firing on the flag and the surrender of the fortress in Charleston harbor; the part the people played; how they emphasized their opposition to the traitors in arms; including the recruiting, equipment and organization of their sons and brothers into a military company and its march to the front.

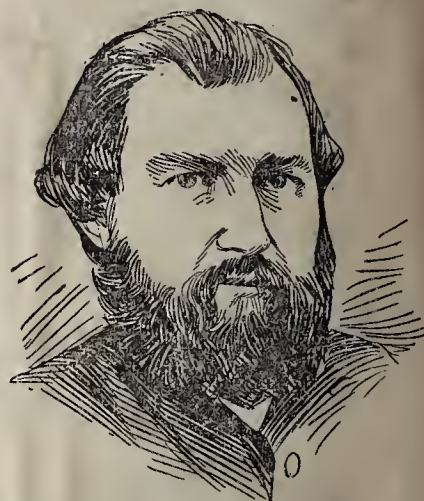
News of the fall of Sumter reached Doylestown Saturday, April 13, 1861, and caused great indignation and excitement. As the next day was Sunday the quiet of the Sabbath gave the people time to reflect on the perils that threatened the country and the means required to avert them. On Monday they were ready to act.

The first person to step forward in defense of the Union was W. W. H. Davis (2) editor and proprietor of the Doylestown Democrat, and captain of an old-time vol-



HENRY CHAPMAN.

unteer company called the Doylestown Guards. (3) He had received a military education and served as captain in the Mexican war. That morning, and before the President's proclamation, calling for 75,000 men, had been received or was even known



LIEUTENANT JACOB SWARTZLANDER.

at Doylestown, he issued the following call, the first in the county, and one of the first in the State; had it printed in his own newspaper, and likewise in hand bills and widely circulated:

MILITARY NOTICE.

The members of the Doylestown Guards and all other patriotic men in favor of maintaining the honor of the Star Spangled Banner and the stability of the United States Government, are requested to meet at Clemens' Hall (4) on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, to take such measures as may be deemed necessary in view of the critical condition of the country.

(Signed.) W. W. H. DAVIS, Captain.
APRIL 15, 1861.

After consulting with friends it was thought advisable to change the place of meeting to the Court House, and a general call was subsequently issued for the same evening, Thursday, April 18. In the meantime the excitement had been increasing and the additional information brought by Monday's papers added fuel to the flames. That morning, April 15, Captain Davis offered the services of his company to Governor Curtin (5) and on Thursday morning its acceptance was received by telegraph:

HARRISBURG, April 18, 1861.
To MAJOR W. W. H. DAVIS: Your company is accepted and will await orders.
(Signed) R. C. HULL.

The reception of the Governor's dispatch,

1. DOYLESTOWN, the county seat of Bucks, is near the geographical centre of the county, at the crossing of the road leading from Easton to Philadelphia, and that from the Delaware to the Schuylkill; 24 miles from Philadelphia by turnpike and 32 by rail. The town was settled about 1730 and named after the Doyle family. It is some 500 feet above tidewater, and is situated in the midst of a delightful and highly cultivated country.

2. W. W. H. DAVIS was born in Southampton township, Bucks county, and descended from revolutionary ancestors. After receiving his preliminary education he entered Norwich University, Vermont, a military institution, where he graduated and afterward taught school in Virginia and in Bucks county. He read law with the late Judge Fox, of Doylestown, and practiced here and in New Mexico. He served in the Mexican war and in the war of the rebellion, and was several years in the government civil service in New Mexico. He is best known as an editor, which has been his occupation almost forty years.

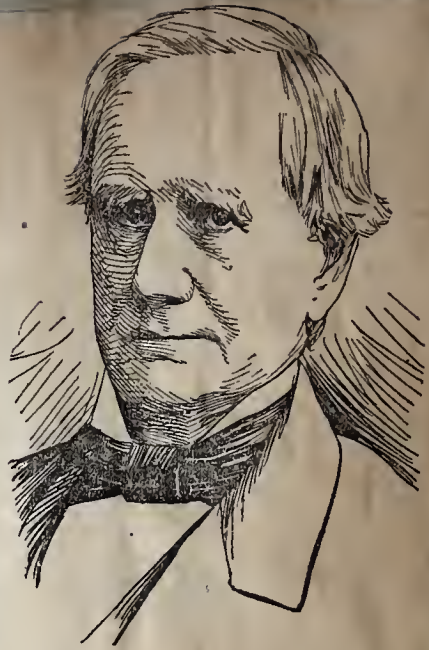
3. THE DOYLESTOWN GRAYS, the parent of the Doylestown Guards, was organized in 1835, at a meeting held Saturday evening, September 12, at the Green Tree tavern. The house was built 90 years ago by Septimus Evans, father of the late Henry S. Evans, of West Chester, and in it the son was born. Caleb E. Wright, late of Wilkesbarre, was chairman. Charles H. Matthews was the first captain, succeeded in turn by Henry Chapman, Pugh Dungan, John B. Pugh, John S. Bryan, Charles H. Mann, James Gilkyson and W. W. H. Davis. The name was changed to Doylestown Guards by act of Assembly, passed March 16, 1847. The company was not reorganized after the war.

4. ANDREW G. CURTIN, born in Centre county in 1817, was elected Governor of Pennsylvania in 1860 and served two terms.

5. CLEMENS' HALL was a large, unused room near the railroad station, and named after John Clemens, its builder, about 1857. The other parts of the building were occupied for a sash factory and planing mill. It was burned down nearly twenty years ago and when rebuilt the hall feature was omitted. The Clemens family has been long settled at Doylestown.

announcing his acceptance of the Doylestown Guards, as may be imagined, increased the general excitement that prevailed. The younger portion of the population was fairly alive with patriotic fervor; business was practically suspended; music of the drum and fife was heard in the streets; snatches of patriotic songs, such as the "Red, White and Blue," the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," were sung and played at intervals indoors and out; flags were flung to the breeze, and knots of men and boys gathered on the street corners to discuss the situation. This was the first time since the war with England, in 1812-15, that the young men of Doylestown had been called upon to take up arms in defence of their country.

The time set for holding the public meeting, Thursday evening, April 18, had arrived. During the day Captain Davis called on the Hon. Henry Chapman (6), President Judge of the Courts, and invited him to preside. This invitation he accepted. At the ringing of the Court House bell a considerable audience assembled, and, before taking his seat as chairman, Judge Chapman made some appropriate and eloquent remarks. After the meeting was called to order, Captain Davis arose and stated its object, and, unfolding



SIMON CAMERON.

a roll he held in his hand, with his own name, the only one upon it, laid it upon the table and invited the young men present to come forward and sign, and they responded in sufficient numbers to nearly fill up the company before the meeting adjourned. The actual number signing was sixty-six, only twelve less than the complement. The first to enroll his name, next to that of Captain Davis, was William Kachline (7), of Doylestown, a young carpenter just come to manhood, and long since deceased. During the progress of the meeting, the name of a recruit was received from Harrisburg, that of State Senator Mahlon Yardley, who telegraphed to be enrolled as a volunteer. This was loudly cheered.

While the young men were enrolling their names as their country's defenders, their elders were conducting the meeting, and, by their spirited and patriotic utterances, gave point to the enthusiastic feeling that prevailed. Speeches were made by George Lear, Esq. (8), Colonel John Blair (9), Nathan C. James, Esq. (10), and Enos Prizer (11). Of these, two are living after the lapse of thirty-four years, Colonel Blair and Mr. James; the former a farmer in Kansas, the latter the oldest practicing member of the Bucks county bar. Mr. Lear, subse-



quently, became Attorney General of the State, and, for several years, was the leader of our bar. Before the meeting adjourned the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That the citizens of Bucks county are hereby invited to assemble in town meeting, in the Court House, at Doylestown, on Tuesday evening next at 7.30 o'clock, to take some action on the critical condition of our country and assist in fitting

6. **HENRY CHAPMAN**, son of Abraham, was descended from John and Jane Chapman, who settled in Wrightstown in 1684. He had a distinguished career. He was admitted to the bar in 1825; elected to the State Senate in 1843; President Judge of Chester and Delaware, 1847; member of Congress, session 1857-59, taking a prominent part in the Kansas-Nebraska debate; was elected President Judge of the Bucks-Montgomery district in 1861, serving the full term of ten years, and died in 1891.

7. **WILLIAM KACHLINE** was the son of Samuel Kachline, a carpenter of Doylestown, and at one time Commissioner of the county. He re-entered the service by enlisting in the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and died in 1882. The family is descended from John Peter Keichline, of Heidelberg, Germany, who settled in Bedminster township in 1742. His son Peter commanded a company of riflemen in Colonel Miles' regiment at the battle of Long Island, where he was taken prisoner. Lord Sterling wrote to Washington that the English General Grant was killed by some of Kachline's riflemen.

8. **GEORGE LEAR**, son of Robert Lear, of Warwick township, Bucks county, was born in 1818. He was brought up to labor until nineteen; then taught school; assisted in a store; read law; admitted to the bar in 1844; Deputy Attorney General 1848-50; member of the Constitutional Convention, 1872-73, and Attorney General of the State 1875-79. He died in 1884.

9. **JOHN BLAIR** was born in Bucks county, and in business at Doylestown when the war broke out, but did not enter the military service. He removed to Ohio about the close of the war, and subsequently to Kansas, where he is engaged in farming. He took an interest in the militia and reached the rank of colonel.

10. **NATHAN C. JAMES** is the son of the late John D. James, of Doylestown township, who was crier of the Bucks county court for half a century. The family settled in New Britain township in 1720. He learned the watchmaking trade; then read law, and was admitted to the bar in 1851; was elected District Attorney in 1854 and re-elected in 1857, the only man who twice filled that office by election in the county. He is the oldest practicing attorney at the bar.

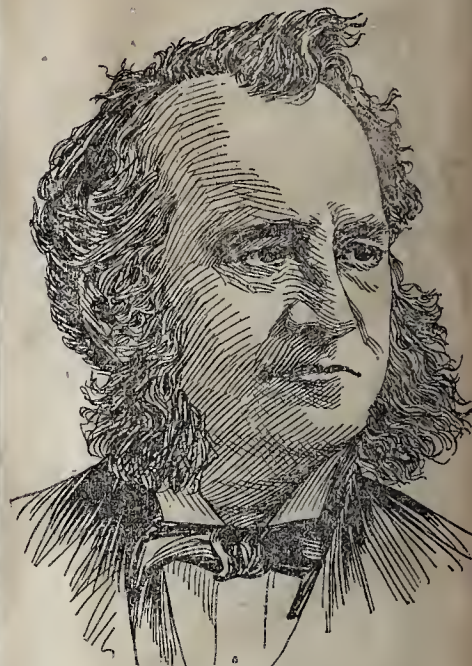
11. **ENOS PRIZER** was a native of Chester county, and learned the printing trade in the office of the Village Record when Henry S. Evans was editor and proprietor, and Bayard Taylor worked at the case. In 1853 he and Henry T. Darlington purchased the Bucks County Intelligencer. Mr. Prizer died at the close of 1864.

out those who are about marching to its defense.

RESOLVED, That the citizens of Doylestown, who remain at home, pledge themselves to support the families of those who shall volunteer for service, and that a committee be appointed (of which the chairman of this meeting shall be the chairman) to carry out the resolution.

The committee appointed consisted of the following: Henry Chapman, chairman; Henry T. Darlington (12), John B. Pugh (13), Nathan C. James, George Lear and

John S. Brown (14). The meeting adjourned with three cheers for the Constitution and the Union. Upon adjournment Captain Davis ordered those who had signed the roll to "fall in" on the broad pavement in front of the Court House (15) for a few minutes' drill. This they did with alacrity, but were soon dismissed. With those who signed the roll the next day, it contained 134 names of young men who were willing to serve their country, but, as only seventy-



JOHN W. FORNEY.

eight could be taken, a selection had to be made, no easy matter when all were not only willing, but anxious, to go. The captain made choice of those he thought best fitted for the hard duties of the field, but there were many disappointments, some who were rejected shedding tears.

The meeting called for under the foregoing resolution was held in the Court House the following Tuesday evening, April 23, when action was taken toward fitting out the company. Judge Chapman again presided, making an eloquent speech upon taking the chair, and speeches were also made by the Rev. Silas M. Andrews (16), of the Presbyterian Church, and William Richards Gries (17), of the Protestant Episcopal. The day

12. **HENRY T. DARLINGTON**, business partner of Enos Prizer in the publication of the Bucks County Intelligencer, also learned the trade in the Village Record office under Henry S. Evans, West Chester. After the death of Mr. Prizer he purchased his interest and conducted the paper until his own death, in 1878.

13. **JOHN B. PUGH** is a descendant of Hugh Pugh, who emigrated from Wales to Chester county, Pa., about 1725. His father was John Pugh, the father and son being born in Hilltown township, Bucks county. His father removed to Doylestown when John B. was a boy. After graduating at the University of Pennsylvania he read law and was admitted to the bar in 1830. His wife was a daughter of the late Judge John Fox, of Doylestown.



THE OLD COURT HOUSE, DOYLESTOWN



MAHLON YARDLEY.

14. JOHN S. BROWN is a native of Plumstead township, Bucks county, and a printer by trade. He was editor and proprietor of the Bucks County Intelligencer for several years prior to its sale to Prizer & Darlington. He removed to Philadelphia at the close of the war and became an officer in the Guarantee Trust and Safe Deposit Company. He is now living retired a few miles out of the city.

15. THE COURT HOUSE, at Doylestown, wherein the first public meeting was held in the county to take action in reference to firing on the flag at Sumter and the surrender of that fortress, was built in 1812-13, and the first regular term of court held in it May 31, of 1813. The present Court House occupying nearly the same site as the old building, was built in 1877-78.

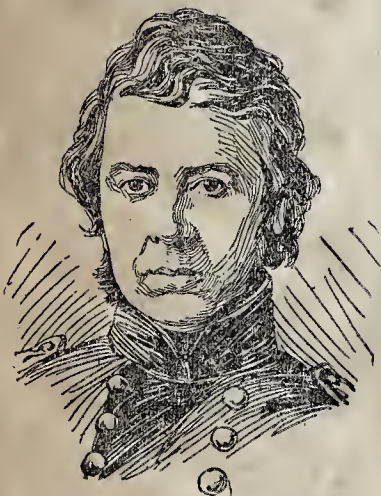
16. SILAS M. ANDREWS, a Presbyterian clergyman of distinction, was born in North Carolina in 1805; was educated at the University of North Carolina; taught school until 1828, when he entered the Princeton Theological Seminary. He was called to the Doylestown Presbyterian Church, his first and only charge, in November, 1831, and remained there until his death, March 7, 1881. He was a man of great ability and of scholarly attainments. During his pastorate he married 1,242 couples.

17. WILLIAM RICHARDS GRIES was the son of Dr. William Gries, and was born in Berks county, Pa., in 1826. He studied divinity, and was subsequently engaged in missionary work in North Carolina. In 1855 he was called to St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Doylestown, and was its pastor until September, 1861, when he was appointed chaplain of the One Hundred and Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, and served three years, rendering valuable services. After the war he was called to Grace Church, Allentown, 1868, where he died in 1872.



NATHAN C. JAMES.

prior to holding this second meeting Captain Davis received the following dispatch from Governor Curtin:



GENERAL WILLIAM H. KEIM.

HARRISBURG, April 22, 1861.
TO CAPTAIN W. W. H. DAVIS:
Await orders. We may send you by way of Philadelphia. Have no arms here to give you.
(Signed.) A. G. CURTIN, Governor.

As the order to march might now be expected at any moment, there was much to be done, and it must be done quickly, to complete the outfitting of the company. The most important thing was its organization, which Captain Davis effected by appointing Jacob Swartzlander (18), son of a near-by farmer and miller, first lieutenant and George T. Harvey (19), druggist, of Doylestown, second lieutenant, the emergency being too pressing to await the slow process of electing officers under the militia laws of the

State. The appointment of non-commissioned officers was deferred until the captain had a better knowledge of the men. Both the lieutenants were officers of the old company.



CHARLES H. MANN.

Captain Davis immediately instituted a thorough system of squad and company drills, paying particular attention to the school of the soldiers. Clemens' Hall, a large, unoccupied room over a sash factory and planing mill near the railroad station, was used as a drill room, and there the company was to be found most of the time, day and night. Both the drill and discipline were severe, and the men took on the bearing of soldiers in a remarkably short time. In the meantime the people of Doylestown and vicinity were not backward in discharging their duty. Money was liberally subscribed, goods purchased, and there was a union of hands in making up a complete outfit of underclothing for those who had volunteered, besides supplying them with many other necessary articles. In this emergency the women of Doylestown and those who lived

18. JACOB SWARTZLANDER, the son of John Swartzlander, of Doylestown township, was born and brought up at his father's mill. He was teaching school when the rebellion broke out, and, being an officer of the company, was active in reorganizing it for the war. He was afterward a captain in the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment, and served three years. He was badly wounded at Fair Oaks by a ball passing through his mouth, carrying away part of his tongue. He removed to Omaha, Neb., soon after the war, where he still lives.

19. GEORGE T. HARVEY was the son of Enoch and a descendant of Thomas Harvey, who settled in Upper Wakefield township, Bucks county, in 1750. Enoch Harvey came to Doylestown between 1785 and 1790, bought what is now the Fountain House and kept it for several years. George read medicine, and after spending a few years in practice in Missouri established himself at Doylestown in the drug business. When the war broke out he was one of the first to volunteer. On his return from the three months' service he joined the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment and served three years as captain. He died in 1892.

near were not unmindful of the duty they owed the cause. Their patriotism was not second to that of the men, and they were active in their efforts to fit out their fathers, husbands, sons and brothers for the field. I regret I cannot recall the names of all who were prominent in this patriotic work, but the following were among the most active: Mrs. Pugh, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Gilkyson, Mrs. Lyman, Mrs. Darlington, Mrs. Brock, Mrs. DuBois, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. James and Miss Fox.

While the company remained at Doylestown, awaiting orders, it was invited to attend service at the two leading churches, Presbyterian and Protestant Episcopal, and availed themselves of this invitation the day before they "folded their tents and marched away"—Sunday, April 28; at the former church in the morning, and at the latter in the evening—where sermons appropriate to the unusual occasion were preached in the presence of a large and sympathizing



WILLIAM KACHLINE.

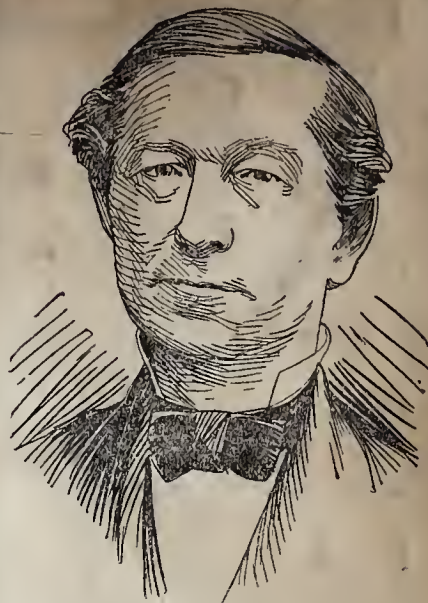
audience. During all this period the excited and nervous condition of the community was maintained, and the dispatches passing almost daily between Governor Curtin and Captain Davis, in no wise tended to allay it. The "Local" of the Democrat epitomized the state of feeling in the following brief paragraph: "On Saturday evening enthusiasm and glorification had full and free sway; martial music mellowed the spring air; cheers for our Union rang out loud and clear along our streets; the 'Star Spangled Banner' was sung o'er and o'er again, and its inspiring chorus mingled in joy with the voices of the night."

The following dispatches now followed each other in quick succession:

PENNSYLVANIA EXECUTIVE CHAMBER.

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 23, 1861.

Captain W. W. H. DAVIS: Dear Sir—We do not know where we shall need your company. As soon as we can ascertain that



REV. S. M. ANDREWS, D. D.

fact you shall have orders to march. We feel the importance of having a soldier of your experience in the field.

Respectfully yours,

Signed.

E. M. BIDDLE.

HARRISBURG, April 25, 1861.

To Captain W. W. H. DAVIS: Must wait a day longer. Will telegraph you to-morrow when to march. Cannot to-day.

Signed.

A. G. CURTIN, Governor.

PHILADELPHIA, April 26, 1861.

To Captain W. W. H. DAVIS: Cannot say when. If possible to-morrow.

Signed

D. P. DIETRICH.

But the long looked for and anxiously awaited marching orders came at last; and the strain upon the company and the community was in a measure relieved by the receipt of the following dispatch at noon on Friday, April 26:

HARRISBURG, April 26, 1861.

To W. W. H. DAVIS: Reach Philadelphia on Monday in time to take the 2.30 P. M. train at Eleventh and Market for Harrisburg.

Signed.

J. A. WRIGHT.

The supreme moment had now arrived, and to the men who had volunteered, as well as to their families and friends who remained at home, the realities of war stood out to them more vividly than ever before. Monday morning, April 26, 1861, was not second in importance to Doylestown and her inhabitants to Saturday, the 13th, when news was received of the fall of Sumter. The company was notified to assemble in front of the Court House at 6 A. M. preparatory to taking the train for Philadelphia. It was there on time, and in a few minutes, was surrounded by hundreds of anxious relatives and friends who had come to bid farewell to their untried soldiers. There was no time to be lost, and after the Rev. Silas M. Andrews had presented to each officer and man a copy of the New Testament, and the last good-byes were said, the company was ordered to "Fall in," and, in a very few minutes, it was formed in marching order. This was the trying moment; mothers, wives, children, sweethearts, gave the last embrace

and kiss to those near and dear, and

"There was sudden parting,
Such as press the life from out young hearts,
And choking sighs that ne'er may be repeated."

The company started at the word of command, the drum and fife playing a lively air. The march through the streets to the railroad station was a continued ovation, the whole population apparently turning out to give the boys "a good send off," and their cheers made the welkin ring. A large crowd had collected about the station, and, as the train moved off with the guards aboard, parting cheers were interchanged.

The "Local" of the Democrat, in the next issue, described the departure of the Doylestown Guards on that eventful morning of April 29, 1861, as follows:

"At 6 o'clock, punctual to the hour, the company began to assemble. Cheering music, which seemed to mock the grief of many a heart, gave life and zest to the gathering of the men; while the fairest of the fair, with smiles bedimmed with tears, were early at the scene. There were tremulous voices, choked utterances, fervent hand clasps, and earnest god-speed wished them each and all. A presentation of a Testament to each man, by Rev. Dr. Andrews, the order to march, the triumphal progress amid loud cheers, and a sea of handkerchiefs, through streets densely lined to the depot, the eager hundreds which there congregated, the entering of the cars, the shrill whistle, departing cheers for our brave and loyal boys—and the train, which bore away from sight our heart-idols, was gone."

The journey from Doylestown to Philadelphia was not without interest to our young



W. W. H. DAVIS.

and untried soldiers of the Union. The Guards, being the first company in this part of the State to start for Harrisburg, attracted no little attention. Crowds of people were assembled at all the stations on the road, who cheered and waved flags as the train passed by. It reached the city at 9.30 and proceeded immediately to the Diligent Engine House, at the corner of Tenth and

Filbert streets, where the Misses Dunlap, living next door, had prepared lunch. The family had formerly lived in Doylestown and were acquainted with some of the young men, and with the parents of others. The company was next marched to the Girard House, an unoccupied hotel, at Ninth and Chestnut streets, where Captain Gibson (20), military storekeeper, U. S. A., had a depot of army clothing, and equipped the Guards in a handsome gray uniform, including overcoats. I never saw a greater change made in the same number of men by putting them into uniform, and, with their steady marching and admirable discipline, they had the appearance of soldiers long in service. They attracted attention wherever seen. The company was marched to the Pennsylvania Railroad station, according to Governor Curtin's order, and took a train for Harrisburg.



GEORGE LEAR.

The arrival of the company in the city and the departure for Harrisburg was noticed as follows by two of the newspapers:

"A company of volunteers from the neighborhood of Doylestown reached the city this morning about half-past 9 o'clock. They are a fine-looking body of men and were uniformed.—Evening Bulletin, April 29.

"Captain W. W. H. Davis, editor of the Doylestown Democrat, arrived in this city yesterday morning with a fine company of eighty men, named the Doylestown Guards. This is the first company organized in Bucks county, and is composed of picked men. Captain Davis served with distinction in the Mexican war, and is a valuable officer. They proceeded to the house of the Diligent Engine Company, where they were hospitably entertained, and afterward marched to West Philadelphia, where they took the cars for Harrisburg. They will report immediately at Camp Curtin, and hold themselves in readiness to march at any moment."—The Press, April 30.

The trip to Harrisburg was without incident. At Lancaster the City Guards, commanded by Captain D. W. Patterson (21), boarded the train and shared the journey with us. Reaching our destination about dark, the Guards were met at the railroad station by State Senator Yardley (22) and

20. GEORGE GIBSON, son of the late Chief Justice Gibson, of the State Supreme Court, was appointed military storkeeper, Quartermaster's Department, U. S. A., April 1, 1853. He was captain, Eleventh Infantry, May 14, 1861, and served through the war, receiving the brevet of major for gallantry at Gettysburg and lieutenant colonel for meritorious service at Lee's surrender. He was colonel, Fifth Infantry, August 1, 1886, and died August 5, 1888, at Hot Springs, New Mexico.

21. DAVID WATSON PATTERSON was a native of Lancaster county, Pa., a grandson of a soldier of the Revolution, and son of an officer of the War of 1812-15; graduated at Washington College, read law, was admitted to the bar; a member of the Legislature in 1846 and District Attorney 1854-57. Having a taste for military pursuits, he gave up his practice at the outbreak of the war and equipped a company at his own expense for the three months' service, returning to civil pursuits at the close of the Shenandoah Valley campaign. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1873; was elected an Associate Law Judge in 1873 and re-elected in 1883, dying in 1892.

22. MAHLON YARDLEY, son of John Yardley, of Bucks county, was born at Yardleyville in 1824. He read law with Henry D. Maxwell, of Easton, and was admitted to the bar in 1846. He was elected to the State Senate in 1858, serving a full term of three years. He joined the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment and served a year as first lieutenant; then resigned because of ill health and accepted the office of United States Marshal for the Fifth district. He was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for the district at the close of the war, afterwards resumed practice, and died at Doylestown in 1873.

Representatives Barnsley and Riley, of Bucks, and other friends, who escorted us to Herr's Hotel, where a very acceptable supper had been provided, and to which the members of the company paid the highest compliment, not exactly following the example of the immortal "Jack Spratt," by "licking the platter clean," but the next thing to it! The "boys" were fully justified in paying the attention they did to the supper, for they knew it would be three months before they could "look upon its like again." The company was now marched to Camp Curtin (23), two miles out of town, and lodged the first night in a Methodist camp meeting tent. As they lay down in the straw to sleep off the fatigue of the day, each "with his martial cloak around him," they not only thought of the girls they had left behind them, but of their mothers' comfortable beds. It was a new experience for these patriotic young men.

The next morning the company was marched into town to be mustered into the military service of the United States, and here was another new experience for the men. In the mustering officer, Captain S. G. Simmons (24), Seventh United States Infantry, Captain Davis found a Mexican war acquaintance, and they were mutually pleased to meet again. The ceremony of muster was clothed with a solemnity befitting the occasion. The company was drawn up in two ranks, when the officers and men, with heads uncovered and hands uplifted, had the following oath administered to them by the mustering officer, each one repeating after him:

"I do solemnly swear that I will bear true allegiance to the United States of America, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whatsoever; and obey the orders of the President of the United States,

and observe and obey the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles for the Government of the Army of the United States." The company was now marched back to Camp Curtin, where the men were set at work putting their quarters in order. On the following day, May 1, the company held a meeting at Camp Curtin, the captain in the chair, and passed resolutions thanking the citizens of Doylestown, the ladies especially, and all others, for the courtesies extended them and the assistance rendered in fitting them out, etc. The resolutions were ordered to be printed in the Doylestown newspapers and entered upon the journal of the company. While at Harrisburg the company was visited by Mrs. Chapman, wife of Judge Chapman, of Doylestown, who was received with all the honors.



LIEUTENANT G. T. HARVEY.

The Doylestown Guards were not permitted to tarry long at Camp Curtin. On May 2 Captain Davis was ordered to proceed to Camp Scott, at York, with his own and five unarmed and ununiformed companies, and report to Major General William H.



HENRY T. DARLINGTON.

Keim. Arriving about dark, the command was marched to the exhibition ground and quartered in the newly-erected cattle sheds. The camp was commanded by Brigadier General George C. Wynkoop (25), brother of the late Colonel Francis M. Wynkoop, of the First Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Mexican War. Here were about 5,000 raw volunteers with only a few companies in uniform and armed. When Captain Davis was sent to Camp Scott with the six companies, it was for the purpose of organizing a new regiment, to be called the Sixteenth, of which he was to be the colonel. This Governor Curtin told him before leaving Harrisburg. But this was not carried out. When the organization was about to be effected a committee of the company officers waited on Captain Davis and tendered him the position of lieutenant colonel. This he declined, saying to the committee it was fairly understood he was to be colonel of the regiment, and that under the circumstances he could not accept the second place; he must be "Caesar or nobody." This ended the interview, and the committee retired. This failure to carry out the wishes of Governor Curtin caused some friction in military circles, and subsequently changed the destiny of the Doylestown Guards. The officer chosen colonel of the Sixteenth was Captain Thomas A. Ziegler (26), of the Worth Infantry, York, who proved to be an able and gallant commander, and laid down his life for the cause.

One of the objects that attracted the greatest attention at York was the old Court House, situated about the middle of the town. When the British army occupied

23. CAMP CURTIN was a depot for raw troops, and to some extent was a camp of instruction, from which thousands of volunteers were sent to the front during the war.

24. SENECA GALUSHA SIMMONS was born in Windsor county, Vt., in 1808, was educated at Captain Partridge's Military Schools, at Norwich, Vt., and Middletown, Conn., and at West Point, where he graduated in 1834, and was assigned to the Seventh Infantry. He served in the Florida and Mexican wars and was at one time Assistant Adjutant General on General Taylor's staff. At the outbreak of the rebellion Captain Simmons was appointed mustering officer for Pennsylvania. He was subsequently commissioned colonel of the Fifth Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserves, and was killed June 30, 1862, at the battle of Glendale, Va. He was major Fourth Infantry, U. S. A.

25. GEORGE C. WYNKOOP, son of Nicholas Wynkoop, of Pottsville, and descendant of Henry Wynkoop, the friend of Washington, and member of the first Congress under the Constitution, was born in 1806. He early exhibited a fondness for military life and was an officer of volunteer cavalry for twenty years. At the outbreak of the war he was one of the five brigadiers appointed for Pennsylvania. He was subsequently appointed colonel of the Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry and served in the Army of Tennessee. He was mustered out of service June 25, 1863, on account of disability.

26. THOMAS A. ZIEGLER was born at York, Pa., in 1824, and educated at Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg. He served in Wynkoop's First Pennsylvania Regiment in the Mexican war and reached the rank of captain. On his return from the Shenandoah Valley campaign he re-enlisted and organized the One Hundred and Seventh Regiment and led it to the field, dying in service from disease at Warrenton, Va., July 15, 1862. Colonel Ziegler was a lawyer by profession, but his tastes were martial.

Continued on Twenty-Sixth Page.

From, *Intelligencer*
Doylestown Pa
Date, *Sept 21 '95*

LOCAL HISTORY.

The South Corner of Hilltown Township.

The Evans Plantation and Family of Hilltown—Evan Evans, the Pioneer—Nathan Evans, the Soldier.

The locality of the Evans tract in Hilltown can easily be remembered when it is said that it covered the extreme south corner of that township. It also covered a portion of the west corner of New Britain, down to 1779. Upon it is built the greater portion of the village of Line Lexington. It also comprised the site of several farms, including those now or recently owned by the Ruth, Swartley, Press, Geisinger and other properties. The homestead was the present farm of John D. Ruth. This is upon a slope a few hundred yards northeast of the County Line, with which a lane connects. The present buildings are modern. A short distance north of the present house is pointed out the site of the original dwelling of the Evans family. A walled spring near by was till recently covered by a springhouse. Here gushed forth a flow of lasting water which induced the first settler to here build his habitation. From thence the lower meadow lands extends to the turnpiked County Line, whilst in the rear northeast the slope rises to the greater elevation of the line of the Bethlehem road. The original tract extended beyond that highway, running along the New Britain line till it met the Aaron and Lewis plantations. In the pleasant woodland of John Press by the roadside have been held many Sunday school picnics in the past. On the southeast side it included the tavern property, the store and the site of the shops and dwellings on both sides of the Bethlehem road, and in New Britain it joined the old Atherholt property.

ROBERT EVANS, THE IMMIGRANT.

Robert Evans, an original settler of Gwynedd, was the American ancestor of the family. He was a Welsh Quaker. In 1702 he bought a tract of 250 acres, extending from the Horsham line to the Spring House, or a mile and a quarter in length. In 1745 he sold 200 acres of his

patent to his son Evan, for £200, this part having a house on it. His death took place in September, 1746, at Radnor. A daughter, Elizabeth Jarvis, is mentioned in his will. He gave £3 to Gwynedd Meeting. To his son, Evan, he gave his Gwynedd plantation, along with Robert and Jonathan, the sons of the latter. This they held till 1760.

EVAN EVANS.

Meantime, long before his father's death, Evan Evans had removed to Hilltown. He was already living in Hilltown, in December 30, 1728, when he received from Andrew Hamilton a title for 250 acres of wild land, for which he paid £100. This was further confirmed to him in 1733 by Thomas, Richard and John Penn. It was part of 500 acres that had belonged to John Harrison, deceased, who had bought of Samuel Thomas, of Hurling, Queene county, New York. The boundaries of the tract bought by Evans were: "Beginning on county line; thence along same northwest 141 perches to corner of land formerly of Samuel Cart; thence by said land and that of John Moore northeast 395 perches; thence southeast 53 perches; thence southwest 160 perches; thence southeast 91 perches; thence by formerly Thomas Stevenson southwest 135 perches to beginning." It will be seen that this tract extended less than a mile along the county line; that it ran back a mile and an eighth northeast; that there was an angle in the northeast boundary, and that it reached in this direction to the Aaron plantation.

Here, in the slope above the meadow Evan Evans built his humble habitation by the springside, cleared a portion of the woods away, and lived the remainder of his life, extending thenceforward probable for forty years. He was away from his former Quaker neighborhood, and was surrounded by his countrymen of another faith. The Baptist churches of Hilltown and Montgomery were convenient. Then also the Baptists mostly used the plain language of the Friends. They called their places of worship meeting houses instead of churches. They abjured all frivolous amusements, all show and adornment in dress, and in manner and customs would not greatly offend one brought up in accordance with Quaker usages. An entry in the old Montgomery church book for the year 1719 says that Evan Evans, Daniel Evans, Jenkin Evans and Isaac James were baptized. So it would appear that Evan Evans had joined the Baptists nine years before buying land in Hilltown, though not that long before becoming a resident there. It is not certain, however, that there may not have been another Evan Evans, who was baptized in 1719.

We have no further record of the life of Evan Evans, save one or two. On the 7th of June, 1751, he and his wife Eleanor sold 200 acres to their son Robert. What became of his other son, Jonathan, we are not informed, but he was living in 1747. Perhaps he stayed in Gwynedd. According to another piece of evidence in possession of his descendants, it is known that he was yet living as late as 1768. He was then, doubtless quite aged, and is supposed to have died shortly afterwards. In 1770 one Eleanor Evans was on the list of members of Montgomery church.

ROBERT EVANS.

Robert Evans, of the next generation, did not long survive his father. He made a will, May 26, 1774, devising fifty acres to his son Nathan, in the following words; "I give unto my son, Nathan, all that part of my plantation lying on the southeast side of the great road, joining lands of John Lapp, the widow Elizabeth Aaron, Henry Lewis and my other lands. This was that portion of the Evans tract lying on the east and southeast side of the Bethlehem road through the village of Line Lexington, and followed that road for 3448 feet in its winding course. As the name of Robert Evans is not found in the enrollment of Hilltown, made in 1775, we may conclude that his death took place in or before that year.

NATHAN EVANS.

Robert Evans left sons, Ezra and Nathan. The latter was born probably as early as 1750, or soon after. In 1775 his name appears as a member of the militia company of Hilltown, and later he became an officer who saw actual service in the American army. One of his descendants, the wife of Rev. H. B. Garner, of Philadelphia, has in her possession his commission as lieutenant in 1777, and that of captain, granted in 1780. The records of Montgomery church say that he was baptized June 2d, 1781. He was married prior to 1779. In that year he sold his portion of 53 acres to a German named Tobias Shull, who was the landlord of the Line Lexington tavern in the days of the Revolution.

After the Revolution, his first wife being deceased, Nathan married Mary Mathews, daughter of Thomas Mathews, of New Britain. This took place about 1790. His father-in-law lived at the present Mathews place, just east of Chalfont. Nathan Evans was one of the constituent members of Hilltown church, formed November 10, 1781. Evans and his wife removed to the Buffalo Valley, now Union county, whither there was much emigration at that time to lands that were cheap and fertile. There he died in March, 1810. Some time after his death his widow and family removed back to Bucks county, where she died March 19, 1834. Their children were John, Robert, David, Joseph, Matthew and George, all born between 1792 and 1804.

Of these children George died in 1823.

Robert became a merchant tailor and lived in New York and New Orleans, between which places he journeyed and traded, and by which business he became quite wealthy. He, however, fell a victim to the pestilence of yellow fever then raging in that southern city. His death took place August 23d, 1835. He was never married and left a considerable fortune to his brother. He was buried at New Britain where there was placed a neat monument to his memory.

Joseph Evans, another son of Nathan, lived in Doylestown township, near the Sandy Ridge school house and married Rachel Riale. He had two sons, William and Dr. Joshua. Joseph and his son, William, removed to Minnesota, where the former died of a prevailing fever in 1857. William, his son, died in the Union Army during the Civil War. Joshua was a practicing physician for many years and died at Branchtown about 1882.

John, another son of Nathan, married Rebecca, daughter of Thomas Thomas, of Hilltown. They lived in Montgomery on the late Peter Bender property, a short

distance northeast of Montgomeryville. They had a family of children.

David Evans was born September 10, 1794. He was a carpenter by trade and afterwards became a lumber merchant in Philadelphia. He was twice married, first to Elizabeth Lunn, and second to Mary, daughter of John D. Rowland. In 1841 he removed from the city to New Britain where he built the present Keeley home. A more particular account of David Evans and family was furnished the INTELLIGENCER a few years ago. His death took place in 1856.

The first wife of Nathan Evans was Mary, daughter of John James, of New Britain, who was born in 1758. By her he had children:

Septimus, Ezra, Elizabeth, Mary and John. Of these, Septimus married Catharine Houpt, of Springfield township. He was a watchmaker and removed to West Chester. His son, Henry S. Evans, was for many years editor of the *Village Record*, and State Senator from Chester county. His two sons, Willie D. and Barton Evans, succeeded their father as publishers of that paper. Ezra, another son, married Elizabeth Swartz, and had children Martin, Jacob, Nathan, Pharos, Christiana, Margaret, Jemima, Elizabeth and Mary. Of these, Martin is a well-known citizen of Doylestown. Of the daughters of Nathan Evans, Mary married Stephen Rowland, and Elizabeth married Mr. Wismer, of Philadelphia.

EZRA EVANS.

It was Ezra, son of Robert Evans, who obtained the greater part of the Hilltown plantation, amounting to 195 acres. The writer has but few facts concerning him. He was baptised and received into the Montgomery church, September 14, 1783. His wife, Mary, was received by letter from Hilltown church on September 17, 1786. As the name of Ezra Evans does not appear in the enrollment of Hilltown, made in 1775, the presumption is that he was then too young. He died before becoming old. His will was made in 1796. By its provision his wife Mary received his plantation until her eldest son, Joel, was of age. The other children were Eleanor, Rachel, Robert, Gwennie and Ezra. Mention is made of Elizabeth, his niece, daughter of his brother Nathan.

Of the lands of Ezra Evans, his son Joel got 65 acres. He died in 1843. His widow, Mary, followed him in August, 1847. In 1849, her heirs, Eleanor Evans, Daniel Evans, Gwennie Rowland, John Riale, Abel W. Evans and John W. Evans sold to Jacob Yoder, of Upper Saucon, Lehigh county. This ended the Evans' ownership after a period of 121 years. The succeeding transfers were: 1853, Yoder to Abraham Yoder; 1863, administrator of Abraham Yoder to Abraham Lapp, a farm of 59 acres; 1884, Lapp to John D. Ruth, the present owner of the site of the original Evans residence.

Robert Evans, brother of Joel, obtained that part of the plantation on the northwest side, the later Swartley farm. The name of his wife was Susannah. He died in 1834. The next year his administrator sold to Charles Bartleson, and in 1837, Bartleson transferred to Eli Ruth, of New Britain. This property now belongs to Henry Swartley. His widow Susannah, removed to New Britain in 1838, where

she purchased a house and lot. This she sold in 1842 to Aaron Rockafellar, and removed to Philadelphia with her son, John M. Evans.

Another portion of the land of Robert Evans, was sold by his administrators in 1835 to Levi Markley. This was on the northeast side, bordering the Bethlehem road. In 1836 Markley conveyed to George Markley, who, in 1867 sold to Daniel Geisinger.

Eleanor Evans, a sister, we believe of Robert and Joel Evans, died in 1857. By her will of that year, her property went to her near relatives, Lucinda Rowland, Gwinnie Rowland, Mary, wife of David Evans, Eleanor Rowland, Anna M. Riale, Abel M. Evans and John M. Evans.

Rachel Evans, daughter of Ezra, Sr., married John D. Rowland. The latter died in March, 1821. In his will, his real estate was ordered to be sold. His brother, William H. Rowland, and his brother-in-laws, Joel Evans and Robert Evans, were made his executors. He

left children, Mary, wife of Daniel Evans, Lucinda, Gwinnie and Eleanor. He owned a farm of 36 acres in Hilltown, along the county line, above the Evans plantation. This was sold in 1824 to Eleanor Evans, and which in 1825 she sold to her brother, Ezra Evans.

The wife of Robert Evans was the widow of Jacob Troxell, whom he married about 1825. She was the daughter of John Miller, her name being Susannah. Her first husband died in 1815. By him she had a daughter, Elizabeth, who became the wife of John O. James, the well known dry goods merchant of Philadelphia, who became prosperous and wealthy in that business. Her son, John Miller Evans, became a carpet merchant of Philadelphia, and was a man of note in the musical profession.

The Troxell family were of German descent, coming from the Palatinate soon after 1730. Jacob Troxell, Sr., was born in 1760. He died March 1, 1806, and was buried at the Lutheran church of Hilltown. His son, Jacob, was engaged in the manufacture and sale of hats in Doylestown, in which place he died. He married Susannah, daughter of John Miller, a Mennonite, who resided for half a century at a grist and saw mill on the North Branch in New Britain. E. M.

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOLS.

An Historical Sketch by Miss Myra Brodt, of Springfield.

Read Before the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association at the Eighth Annual Meeting at Durham, June 15, 1895.

In looking over old deeds, and searching for old records, we find that the East Springtown school grounds are the oldest in the township of Springfield. A deed was given for this tract of land, January 2d, 1807. The land was given as a free

gift by Henry Funk and his wife, Barbara, grand-parents of Hon. H. S. Funk. But when the first building was erected we have no means of ascertaining. The building now standing on this tract of land is the third one. At the time this deed was given we find that Jacob Kooker and Howard Shoemaker were trustees. We find the next oldest school grounds in the township is the Rocks, now known as the Salem. The land was purchased of John Musselman and wife, for \$1. George Schitz and Joseph Snyder, were trustees. The next deed is the one given for the Penn. The ground was given as a free gift by Joseph Schleifer. The deed was given in 1849. A deed was given for the Amity school grounds in 1851. The land was purchased of Levi O. Kulp, Esq., for \$5.00. This is the oldest school building now standing in the township. It was here were Rev. B. F. Apple, who was at that time but little more than a school boy, taught his first term of school. Some of the large boys to tease him used his high hat for a spittoon. He thrashed them soundly for their fun. Teaching was for him only a stepping stone to something higher, and he is now the pastor of a prosperous church in the borough of Stroudsburg, Monroe county. The next deed given was that for the West Springtown school ground. This deed was given in 1853 on the 5th of July. The ground was purchased of Jacob Pearson for \$25. We find that the next deed given was the one for the Gruver's Lane, now known as the Keystone. This deed was given in 1857 on the 18th of July. The ground was purchased of Daniel Landes for \$15. A deed was given for the Rice's school ground the 9th of June, 1858. The land was purchased of Thomas Rice, Jacob Sterner and Samuel Algard, for the sum of \$2. We find another deed was given for a tract for the Rocks or No. 2. This deed was given on the 14th of May, 1859. The land was purchased of David Rudolph, Abraham Kaufman and Abraham O. Moyer, for \$1. A deed was given for the Fair Mount school ground, in 1860, on the 29th of August. The ground was purchased of Samuel Seiple for \$20. A deed was given for the Pleasant Valley school ground on the 4th of May, 1862. The ground was purchased of Joseph Moyer for \$25. In 1864 a deed was given for an addition to the Amity school grounds. The ground was purchased of William Cressman for \$45. A deed was given for the Zion Hill school ground on the 19th of April, 1865. The land was purchased of Ephraim Hept for \$140. A deed was given for the Franklin school ground on the 7th of August, 1866. The land was purchased of Jacob Barron for \$50. This, however, was not the first building erected here. The building erected before the one now standing was called the "Eight Cornered" school house, but for some unknown cause there was no deed given until 1866. A deed was given for the Stony Point school ground on the 5th of June, 1873. The land was purchased of Enos Biehn for \$50. A deed was given for the present West Springtown school ground on the 30th of March, 1881. The land was purchased of Henry Pearson and Jacob Pearson, for \$48. A deed was given for the present Penn school ground on the 16th of April, 1882. The land was pur-

chased of David S. Gehman for \$100. In 1892 a deed was given for the Washington school ground. The land was purchased of P. M. Landis for \$25. There is no deed for the Springfield Church school ground. The ground on which the building is erected is owned by the Springfield church, and is leased for fifty years.

The first record we have of the school directors was in the year 1861. When the teachers' examination was held at Fair Mount there were seventeen applicants in the class, and comprised the following: J. S. Fox, J. A. Campbell, J. Beidleman, F. S. Mann, A. W. Benner, T. A. Weirbach, D. Y. Mann, J. O. Shimmel, R. H. Deily, H. G. Paff, W. A. Werst, Tobias Sterner, M. J. Fulmer, W. S. Moyer, Manassas S. Moyer, L. S. Biehn, J. A. Goforth.

There still remains the ruins of an old log hut on Swope Hill, near the Northampton county line. In those days it contained two apartments. One was used as a dwelling and the other for a school room, where, for a small consideration, the occupant received day scholars. It was here that some of the larger boys became tired of the monotony of daily reading the same sentences from the old spelling books. They changed the sentences to suit themselves. Instead of reading the sentence "The little dog ran out and began to bark," they changed it to "The little dog ran out and began to kick." The teacher, of course, not knowing of their plans, was at first speechless with anger and astonishment. After using some profane language he threatened to strike them over the heads with his fist. The boys were almost smothered with laughter but were compelled to keep straight faces.

In 1860 the school term was five months and the teacher's salary was fixed at \$25 a month. In 1872 the school term was raised to six months and the teacher's salary was raised to \$35 a month. In 1881 the directors decided to pay experienced teachers, holding first-class certificates, \$30 a month. In 1882 the teacher's salary was raised to \$33 a month. In 1886 the salary was raised to \$38, according to experience. Beginners were to receive \$33 a month. In 1872 the teachers were to attend the county institute three days. In 1874 they were to attend five days. In 1883 new furniture took the place of the old wooden desks and benches in the following school houses: Church, Salem, Zion Hill and Pleasant Valley. In 1884 new furniture was put in the Franklin and East Springtown school houses, and in 1887 in the Amity and Union school houses. In 1877 the present Fair Mount school house was built. In 1880 the Gruver's Lane school house was rebuilt, now known as the Keystone. The present Church school house was rebuilt in 1892. Owing to the large number of scholars at the Fair Mount school the school was graded during the summer of 1892 and a new building erected by the side of the one already built. On the 30th of April, 1878, it was resolved that the directors of Springfield township recommend the board of examiners and the faculty of the Kutztown State Normal School to grant Carrie W. Kline and Sadie J. Horne State Normal diplomas. In 1884 Butler's Readers were adopted. In 1887 geographies and spellers were adopted in the schools, to be supplied free. In 1891 the Fair Mount school was vacant until the 12th of October, when

McCormick was appointed teaching the winter this school had teachers. Frank McCormick resigned December 21st, 1891. John Ettwein was appointed January 1st, 1892, and died February 22d, 1892. Owen Batt was appointed February 25th, 1892. The latter finished the term. During the winter of 1892 and '93 the Keystone school had two teachers, the first one being driven away by a white-cap notice.

The first record we have of both teachers and directors was 1861. But the deeds give some of the directors' names, or trustee, as they were called, as early as 1807, as follows:

Trustees for 1807—Jacob Kooker and Howard Shoemaker.

Trustees for 1826—George Shitz and Joseph Snyder.

Directors for 1849—Joseph Sleiffer, John R. Marstellar, Jacob Barrow, Joseph Mease, David L. Horn and John M. Smith.

Directors for 1851—David L. Horn, John M. Smith, Daniel Landis, John Eakin, Ephraim Beidelman and Amos H. Snyder.

Directors for 1853—John Smith, Alexandra Patrick, Ephraim Beidelman, Samuel Mann, Samuel Horn and Solomon Hess.

Teachers for 1861—Zion's Church, Reuben H. Deily; Rocks, Allen W. Sterner; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; near A. D. Moyer's, Wm. G. Moyer; Springfield Church, J. A. Campbell; East Springtown, Wm. S. Moyer; Sleifer's, Milton J. Fulmer; Barron's, W. H. Werst; near Thomas Rice's, John Beidelman; near E. Beihn's, Henry G. Paff; near Samuel Cressman's, Francis S. Mann; West Springtown, Aaron Christine; near J. R. Benner's, Thomas B. Weirbach.

Directors for 1860—J. Arney, Henry F. Trumbower, W. H. Gruver, David R. Hess, Henry Gruver and Samuel Scheetz.

Directors for 1861—Henry T. Trumbower, David R. Hess, W. H. Gruver, Charles Youngkin, David J. Weirbach and Samuel Scheetz.

Directors for 1858—John Youngkin, Joseph Arney, George Wolf, Henry Gruver, Isaac Geisinger and George A. Hess.

Directors for 1859—John Youngkin, Joseph Arney, Henry Gruver, George Wolf, Henry T. Trumbower and William H. Gruver.

Teachers for 1862—Zion's Church, Charles Mason; Rocks, M. S. Moyer; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; Springfield Church, J. A. Campbell; East Springtown, A. W. Sterner; Sleifer's, E. A. Kratz; Barron's, Robert S. Garner; near Thomas Rice's, Francis Mann; near Samuel Cressman's, Leidy B. Landis; near E. Beihn's, Lewis S. Beihn; near J. R. Benner's, W. H. Rudolph; West Springtown, John H. Krout.

Teachers for 1863—Zion's Church, L. N. Benner; Rocks, C. D. Walp; Fair Mount, A. M. Stauffer; near A. D. Moyer's, Leidy B. Landis; Springfield Church, J. A. Campbell; East Springtown, —; Sleifer's, A. W. Sterner; Barron's, O. J. Fox; near Thomas Rice's, D. S. Pulling; near E. Beihn's, J. Swope; near Samuel Cressman's, —; West Springtown, —; near Benner's, Harrison Dichet.

Directors for 1863—David Weirbach, John Eakin, Francis Ruth, Nathan Cressman, Edward Dilgart and Uriah

Lynn.

Teachers for 1864—Zion's Church, Lewis N. Benner; Rocks, —; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; near A. D. Moyer's, Quintus Hess; Springfield Church, Milton J. Fulmer; East Springtown, —; Sleifer's, A. W. Sterner; Barron's, —; near Thomas Rice's, Manasses S. Moyer; near E. Beihn's, Jonas Swope; near Samuel Cressman's, Isaac Stahr; West Springtown, —; near J. R. Benner's, Enos L. Beihn.

Directors for 1862—Henry Trumbower, David Hess, David J. Weirbach, Charles Youngkin, W. H. Gruver and Samuel Scheetz.

Directors for 1864—Aaron Landbach, Samuel Frey, John Eakin, Ephraim Shank, Nathan Cressman and Uriah Lynn.

Teachers for 1865—Zion's Church, Harrison H. Dichet; Rocks, George E. Stover; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; near A. D. Moyer's, Manasses S. Moyer; Springfield Church, —; East Springtown, Lewis S. Jacoby; Sleifer's, Quintes Hess; Barron's, David W. Bachman; near Thomas Rice's, A. W. Sterner; near E. Beihn's, Lewis Beihn; near S. Cressman's, —; West Springtown, Levi S. Zeiner; near J. R. Benner's, —.

Directors for 1865—Samuel Frey, Ephraim Shank, Uriah Lynn, Aaron Landbach, Daniel Weirbach and John S. Fluck.

Teachers for 1866—Zion's Church, Tobias Sterner; Rocks, E. B. Hottel; Fair Mount, —; near A. D. Moyer's, Manasses S. Moyer; Springfield Church, Milton J. Fulmer; East Springtown, Lewis S. Jacoby; Sleifer's, Quintes Hess; Barron's, Asher L. Hess; near Thomas Rice's, A. G. Weikel; near E. Beihn's (changed to Stony Point), P. W. Hoffman; near Samuel Cressman's, I. S. Weikel; West Springtown, L. S. Zeiner; near J. R. Benner's, John Shimmel.

Directors for 1866—Samuel Frey, Aaron Landbach, Levi M. Johnson, Daniel Weirbach, Thomas H. Ochs and John L. Fluck.

Teachers for 1867—Zion's Church, W. H. Mininger; Rocks, C. B. Wolf; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; near A. D. Moyer's, M. S. Moyer; Springfield Church, Chester K. Leidy; East Springtown, Lewis Beihn; Sleifer's, I. S. Weikel; Barron's, Wm. B. Rep; near Thomas Rice's, O. L. Rice; Stony Point, P. W. Hoffman; near Samuel Cressman's, John A. Snyder; West Springtown, Newton S. Rice; near J. R. Benner's, Tobias Sterner.

Directors for 1867—Daniel Weirbach, Isaac Cressman, John L. Fluck, Levi M. Johnson and Reuben B. Apple.

Teachers for 1868—Zion's Church, Wm. H. Mininger; Rocks, M. M. Swartley; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; Moyer's, Ahmon A. Apple; Springfield Church, David A. Bachman; East Springtown, Harry M. Trumbore; Sleifer's, Milton J. Fulmer; Barron's, Samuel Algard; near Thomas Rice's, Oliver S. Rice; Stony Point, P. W. Hoffman; near Samuel Cressman's, Tobias Sterner; West Springtown, Newton S. Rice; near J. R. Benner's, Samuel Lambert.

Directors for 1868—Edward T. Hess, Isaac Cressman, T. H. Ochs, L. M. Johnson, Adam Weirbach and R. B. Apple.

Teachers for 1869—Zion's Church, W. H. Mininger; Rocks, M. M. Swartz; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; Moyer's, R. W. Weirbach; Springfield Church, A.

G. Weikel; East Springtown, Samuel R. Trauch; Sleifer's, Samuel A. Campbell; Barron's, S. S. Algart; near Thomas Rice's, Oliver S. Rice; Stony Point, Philip W. Hoffman; near Samuel Cressman's, Tobias Sterner; West Springtown, Newton S. Rice; near J. R. Benner's, Enos C. Beihn.

Directors for 1869—Reuben H. Deiley, Isaac Cressman, R. B. Apple, Adam Weirbach, Henry Bissey and Edward T. Hess.

Teachers for 1870—Zion's Church, William Mininger; Rocks, M. M. Swartz; Fair Mount, John O. Shimmel; Moyer's, Ralph W. Weirbach; Springfield Church, Philip W. Hoffman; East Springtown, Amelia Hess; Sleifer's, Newton S. Rice; Barron's, —; near Thomas Rice's, A. G. Weikel; Stony Point, Jonas W. Swope; near Samuel Cressman's, Oliver S. Rice; West Springtown, Anna C. Rawling; near J. R. Benner's, David Clyde.

The continuation of the records of the teachers and directors of Springfield township schools are as follows:

Directors for 1870—Isaac Cressman, Charles Mumbower, Adam Weirbach, L. M. Johnson, Henry Bissey, Edmund T. Hess.

Teachers for 1871—Zion's Church, S. S. Rosenberger; Rocks, (changed to Salem) —; Fair Mount, Zeno W. Weirbach; Moyer's, (changed to Pleasant Valley) Jacob S. Moyer; Springfield Church, P. W. Hoffman; East Springtown, Amelia Hess; Sleifer's, Alice M. Adams; Barron's, (changed to Franklin) Oliver S. Rice; near Thomas Rice's, (changed to Union) A. G. Weikel; Stony Point, Gertrude Adams; near Samuel Cressman's, Charles F. Meyers; West Springtown, Sue E. Zerne; near J. R. Benner's, Clemmet Snyder.

Directors for 1871—T. H. Ochs, L. M. Johnson, Charles Mumbower, Isaac Cressman, Adam Weirbach, Edmund T. Hess.

Teachers for 1872—Zion's Church, L. Y. Clymer; Salem, Morris M. Swartz; Fair Mount, Lewis M. Shimmel; Pleasant Valley, Charles F. Meyers; Springfield Church, P. W. Hoffman; East Springtown, Amelia Hess; Sleifer's, Titus C. Strock; Franklin, Wilson Strock; Union, A. G. Weikel; Stony Point, Jonas Swope; near Samuel Cressman's, (changed to Amity) E. M. Loux; West Springtown, John B. Keller; near J. R. Benner's, (changed to Gruver's Lane) L. J. Link.

Directors for 1872—Edward T. Hess, Isaac Cressman, Reuben Eckert, Adam Weirbach, Jacob Z. Fabian and Charles Mumbower.

Teachers for 1873.—Zion's Church, T. T. Clymer; Salem, Henry Strunk; Fair Mount, M. M. Swartz, Pleasant Valley, Zeno W. Weirbach; Springfield Church, C. H. Hindenach; East Springtown, Amelia Hess; Sleifer's, Peter A. Gruver; Franklin, Amanda Hess; Union, Tobias Sterner; Stony Point, Newton S. Rice; Amity, Edwin M. Loux; West Springtown, Titus C. Strock; Gruver's Lane, L. Z. Link.

The names of the directors for 1873 and 1874 are not given. The names of the teachers for 1874 and 1875 are not given.

Teachers for 1876.—Zion's Church, —; Salem, —; Fair Mount, A. G. Stauffer; Pleasant Valley, D. S. Shelly; Springfield Church, T. Y. Weiderhammer; East

Springtown, Wilson Strock; Siemer's, Catharine Fluck; Franklin, Amanda Hess; Union, A. G. Weibel; Stony Point, Jonas W. Swope; Amity, Anna R. Lovett; West Springtown, T. C. Strock; Gruver's Lane, L. J. Link.

Directors for 1875.—William H. Gruver, R. Eckert, Jacob Solliday, Ephraim Shank, Charles Mumbower and Eli-Frankenfield.

Directors for 1876.—William H. Gruver, Ephraim Shank, Jacob K. Solliday, S. S. Cressman, Reuben Eckert and J. M. Kaufman.

Teachers for 1877—Zion's Church, S. S. Rosenberger; Salem, E. H. Rosenberger; Fair Mount, Mary Rinle; Pleasant Valley, Carrie W. Kline; Springfield Church, Sadie J. Horne; East Springtown, Wilson Strock; Sleifers (Changed to Penn.) Anna R. Lovett; Franklin, Amanda Hess; Union, Catharine Campbell; Stony Point, Latayette R. Amey; Amity, A. G. Weikel; West Springtown, T. C. Strock; Gruver's Lane, —.

Directors for 1877—Reuben Apple, Fred. Trauger, I. M. Kaufman, Reuben Eckert, S. S. Cressman and Ephraim Shank.

Teachers for 1878—Zion's Church (Changed to Zion's Hill), S. S. Rosenberger; Salem, Francis R. Mann; Fair Mount, Lewis J. Link; Pleasant Valley, Carrie W. Kline; Springfield Church, T. Y. Weiderhammer; East Springtown, Wilson Strock; Penn, T. C. Strock; Franklin, Amanda Hess; Union, Oliver S. Rice; Stony Point, Jordon Stover; Amity, Charles H. Ott; West Springtown, —; Gruver's Lane, —.

Directors for 1878—J. M. Kaufman, Levi M. Johnson, R. B. Apple, Frederick Trauger, Tilghman Barron and S. S. Cressman.

Teachers for 1879—Zion's Hill, Eastburn R. Hottle; Salem, Francis R. Mann; Fair Mount, L. C. Link; Pleasant Valley, Mahlon C. Beringer; Springfield Church, T. Y. Weiderhammer; East Springtown, John R. Koch; Penn, George S. Cressman; Franklin, Amanda Hess; Union, Philip Barron; Stony Point, Jordon F. Stover; Amity, C. Henry Ott; West Springtown, T. C. Strock; Gruver's Lane, Lavene D. Knechel.

Directors for 1879—John L. Fluck, Levi M. Johnson, R. B. Apple, Tilghman Barron, Frederick Trauger and Charles B. Bechtel.

Teachers for 1880—Zion's Hill, Eugene Gangewere; Salem, Lewis M. Beidler; Fair Mount, A. R. Trumbower; Pleasant Valley, E. R. Hottle; Springfield Church, Francis R. Mann; East Springtown, S. S. Diehl; Penn, George Cressman; Franklin, Amanda Hess; Union, Henry Mill; Stony Point, Philip Barron; Amity, Alfred S. Snyder; West Springtown, W. H. Lantz; Gruver's Lane, D. K. Knechel.

Directors for 1880—Tilghman Barron, R. B. Apple, Jonas W. Swope, Charles Bechtel, Levi M. Johnson and John L. Fluck.

Teachers for 1881—Zion's Hill, Lewis M. Beidler; Salem, S. S. Diehl; Fair Mount, Lavene D. Knechel; Pleasant Valley, James F. Lambert; Springfield Church, E. R. Hottle; East Springtown, Titus C. Strock; Penn, Alfred Snyder; Franklin, Elmer E. Funk; Union, Lydia J. Hemmerly; Stony Point, Philip L. Barron; Amity, Isaiah Hixson; West Springtown, Amanda Hess; Gruver's Lane, —.

Directors for 1881—Reuben B. Apple,

Charles B. Bechtel, Jonas W. Swope, Daniel Mease, David Walp and John L. Fluck.

Teachers for 1882—Names of schools are not given, John A. Ruth, Elmer E. Funk, Samuel F. Wolfe, Jacob Cressman, L. D. Knechel, Philip L. Barron, S. S. Diehl, Amanda Hess.

Directors for 1882—Jonas W. Swope, R. B. Apple, John L. Fluck, Daniel Mease, I. S. Reiss and David B. Walp.

Teachers for 1883—Zion's Hill, Harry A. Hett; Salem, Samuel S. Diehl; Fair Mount, Eastburn R. Hottle; Pleasant Valley, Alma A. Schneck; Springfield Church, Clara S. Campbell; East Springtown, S. Lizzie Lowmes; Penn, Lizzie Applebach; Franklin, Philip L. Barron; Union, J. D. Fackenthal; Stony Point, Webster Grim; Amity, Jacob Cressman; West Springtown, Amanda Hess; Gruver's Lane (changed to Keystone), Thomas J. Trumbower.

Directors for 1883—Josiah Weirbach, Edwin Kiser, David B. Walp, Jacob S. Reiss, John L. Fluck and Daniel Mease.

Teachers for 1884—Zion's Hill, Howard Levi; Salem, L. D. Knechel; Fair Mount, Hiram J. Hillegas; Pleasant Valley, Harry A. Hett; Springfield

Church, Clara S. Campbell; East Springtown, John Hinkle; Penn, Peter I. Lantz; Franklin, Philip L. Barron; Union, Richard Schaffer; Stony Point, Webster Grim; Amity, Elmer Funk; West Springtown, Amanda Hess; Keystone, Eastburn R. Hottle.

Directors for 1884—Isaiah Weirbach, Edwin Kiser, Daniel Mease, Jacob Reiss, John L. Fluck and David Walp.

Teachers for 1885—Zion's Hill, Howard A. Foling; Salem, Emily D. Gerbron; Fair Mount, Hiram J. Hillegas; Pleasant Valley, Hattie R. Clemans; Springfield Church, Kate Lamb; East Springtown, Joseph H. McGee; Penn, Mary A. Gannon; Franklin, Philip Barron; Union, Amanda Wismer; Stony Point, Amanda Hunsberger; Amity, Lewis L. Weiss; West Springtown, Amanda Hess; Keystone, Eastburn R. Hottle.

Directors for 1885—Josiah Weirbach, Edwin Kiser, David B. Walp, John S. Fluck, Daniel Mease and W. C. Link.

Teachers for 1886—Zion's Hill, Oliver H. Urfer; Salem, Charles Doll, Jr.; Fair Mount, Hiram J. Hillegas; Pleasant Valley, Amanda Hess; Springfield Church, Lillie E. Doll; East Springtown, Edwin Frankenfield; Penn, Henry B. Strock; Franklin, Harvey M. Loux; Union, Amanda Wismer; Stony Point, Philip L. Barron; Amity, Eastburn R. Hottle; West Springtown, Erwin Dieterly; Keystone, Jacob R. Snyder.

Directors for 1886—Josiah S. Weirbach, David Walp, John L. Fluck, W. C. Link, Edwin Kiser and Daniel Mease.

Teachers for 1887—Zion's Hill, Oliver H. Urfer; Salem, Charles Doll, Jr.; Fair Mount, John F. Meyers; Pleasant Valley, Hiram J. Hillegas; Springfield Church, Lillie E. Doll; East Springfield, Edwin Frankenfield; Penn, George W. C. Mill; Franklin, Henry B. Strock; Union, Joseph D. Fackenthal; Stony Point, Philip L. Barron; Amity, Darius Sine; West Springtown, Henry M. Cressman; Keystone, Jacob R. Snyder.

Directors for 1887—Daniel Mease, Edwin Kiser, W. C. Link, Josiah Weirbach, and John L. Fluck.

for 1888.—Zion's Hill, changed

to Zion Hill, Oliver H. Urfer; Salem, Harry Saylor; Fair Mount, Hiram J. Hillegas; Pleasant Valley, Lillie E. Doll; Springfield Church, Amanda Hemmerly; East Springtown, E. A. Frankenfield; Penn, Lizzie Yost; Franklin, Emily D. Gerbron; Union, Harvey Kiser; Stony Point, Philip Barron; Amity, Elmira Ochs; West Springtown, Charles Doll, Jr.; Keystone, —.

Directors for 1888.—John L. Fluck, Edwin Kiser, W. C. Link, Josiah S. Weirbach, R. Brodt and Daniel Mease.

Teachers for 1889.—Zion Hill, Oliver H. Urfer, Salem, Frank Schaeffer; Fair Mount, Hiram J. Hillegas; Pleasant Valley, Meno S. Moyer; Springfield Church, Henry B. Strock; East Springtown, E. A. Frankenfield; Penn, Lizzie Yost; Franklin, Emily D. Gerbron; Union, Harvey Kiser; Stony Point, Philip L. Barron; Amity, Elmira Ochs; West Springtown, M. Lizzie Boyer; Keystone, Victor Singer.

Directors for 1889.—Robert Brodt, Milton T. Hess, W. C. Link, H. S. Mill, Edwin Kiser, Joseph Gerbron.

Teachers for 1890.—Zion Hill, William H. Christman; Salem, Frank M. Schaeffer; Fair Mount, Hiram J. Hillegas; Pleasant Valley, Warren S. Long; Springfield Church, Henry B. Strock; East Springfield, Emily A. Boyer; Penn, Ira Bergstresser; Franklin, Lizzie Yost; Union, Oscar L. Barron; Stony Point, Harvey L. Kiser; Amity, Sallie E. Angeny; West Springtown, M. Lizzie Boyer; Keystone, E. Wilson Dannehour.

Directors for 1890.—John S. Fluck, Robert Brodt, Joseph Gerbron, Milton T. Hess, W. C. Link and Edwin Kiser.

Teachers for 1891.—Zion Hill, Warren S. Long; Salem, Frank M. Schaeffer; Fair Mount, Frank McCormick; Pleasant Valley, Cora B. Grim; Springfield Church, Emily A. Boyer; East Springtown, A. I. Reinhard; Penn, M. Lizzie Boyer; Franklin, Lizzie Yost; Union, Oscar L. Barron; Stony Point, Mary E. Fabian; Amity, Elmer S. Campbell; West Springtown, Harvey S. Kiser; Keystone, H. Wilson Dannehour; Washington, Ida R. Fabian.

Directors for 1891.—Robert Brodt, Milton T. Hess, W. C. Link, H. S. Mill, Edwin Kiser and Joseph Gerbron.

Teachers for 1892.—Zion Hill, Frank H. Bean; Salem, Emma Daugherty; Fair Mount (grammar), Margaret Downing; Pleasant Valley, Carrie W. Kline; Springfield Church, Emily A. Boyer; East Springtown, A. I. Reinhard; Penn, Lizzie Boyer; Franklin, Lizzie Yost; Union, Oscar L. Barron; Stony Point, Nora E. Grim; Amity, Elmer S. Campbell; West Springtown, Minnie E. Hess; Keystone, Joseph A. Boyle; Washington, Ida R. Fabian; Fair Mount (primary), Laura M. Weidner.

Directors for 1892.—Joseph Gerbron, Robert Brodt, Milton T. Hess, Andrew Apple, H. S. Mill and W. C. Link.

Teachers for 1893—Zion Hill, William Rittenhouse; Salem, Mary K. McCune; Fair Mount (grammar), Ella C. Sibbet; Pleasant Valley, Carrie W. Kline; Springfield Church, M. Lizzie Thomas; East Springtown, A. I. Reinhard; Penn, Calvin S. Boyer; Franklin, Oscar L. Barron; Union, Ida R. Fabian; Stony Point, Elmer S. Campbell; Amity, Annie A. Fluck; West Springtown, Minnie E. Hess; Keystone, Edward Noble; Washington, Emily A. Boyer; Fair Mount

(primary), Laura M. Weidner.

Directors for 1893—Jacob Fabian, Milton T. Hess, H. S. Mill, Andrew Apple, W. C. Link and Owen Hillegas.

Teachers for 1894—Zion Hill, Joseph Laubach; Salem, Jesse Allen; Fair Mount (grammar), Emma Weidner; Pleasant Valley, Elizabeth Martz; Springfield Church, Rufus Moyer; East Springtown, A. I. Reinhard; Penn, C. S. Boyer; Franklin, Oscar L. Barron; Union, Erwin Grove; Stony Point, Elmer S. Campbell; Amity, Lillie Walter; West Springtown, Anna Fluck; Keystone, Henry Darlington; Washington, Emily A. Boyer; Fair Mount (primary), Laura M. Weidner.

Directors for 1894—Andrew Apple, L. D. Knechel, Jacob Z. Fabian, Milton T. Hess, Owen Hillegas and O. B. Fackenthall.

About the year 1836 David Magill, a very old man, taught Bonnycastle's mensuration in the East Springtown school house. About the year 1837 William Moyer taught Bonnycastle's algebra and Gummere's surveying in the Franklin school house, and about the same time Randall Myers taught Gummere's surveying at the Springfield Church school house. After that the theory and practice of surveying was frequently taught in the day schools of East Springtown, West Springtown, Springfield Church and Franklin until the time of the compulsion to accept the free school when the science of mathematics dwindled down to arithmetic only; mental arithmetic becoming the craze. At that time practical surveyors were numerous.

About the year 1858, Aaron S. Christine opened a "select school" in Springtown, on the site where Jacob Pearson now resides, in which was studied algebra, geometry, chemistry, normal philosophy, anatomy, geology, botany, mineralogy, first lesson in Latin and first lessons in Greek. At one time he had a class of twenty-six in Latin and twenty-six in Greek. This school was only open during the summer. In winter he taught the public school. In July, 1862, David W. Hess opened a "select school" in a newly built house, near his place in Springfield in which was taught all the branches taught in Aaron S. Christine's school; but in addition there was taught Robinson's surveying and navigation, Robinson's Cormic sections, Loomis' calculus and Bussitt's geography of the heavens. In the schools of Aaron S. Christine and David W. Hess, the students were not only required to memorize the lessons of the text book but each scholar was required to gather specimens in botany and mineralogy, etc., and the larger scholars to be able to point out the principal constellations and to distinguish between the planets and the large fixed stars. In anatomy a human skeleton was used. Each scholar had the privilege to try to arrange the separate bones in their places. The scholars handled the bones with no more disgust than if they were pieces of stove wood. There was a fine collection of minerals and Indian relics and of little bottles containing the more common chemicals, all the kinds of wood growing here, philosophical instruments, chemical apparatus, etc. The human skeleton in Aaron S. Christine's school was at that time looked upon as dangerous by some fathers and mothers, but when David W. Hess taught the human skeleton became less dangerous, and every one

lost all fear. During the time of Aaron S. Christine's school, William Johnson, a very bright mathematician, was superintendent of Bucks county. He encouraged object lessons in the higher branches in the public schools. During D. W. Hess' time Simeon Overholt (with very little more mathematics than arithmetic), as superintendent, these object lessons were discouraged by him. He had a craze for mental arithmetic and in his examinations he generally spent several hours with questions in Brook's mental arithmetic.

During the summer of 1885 a select school was opened in East Springtown school house, with Rev. T. C. Strock as principal. After the school had been opened a number of men organized a stock company and purchased a building lot of Samuel M. Strock and erected a building known as the Springtown Academy. The time having arrived for the public school to open after nine weeks school, in the East Springtown school house, the school was moved to the *Times* building. The room is now occupied by the Globe Insurance Company. After two weeks vacation the school opened in the new building. In the spring of 1886 when the spring term opened more students entered than one teacher was capable of teaching all the higher branches. Rev. T. C. Strock was professor of Latin, Greek and the sciences; Rev. O. T. Ettwein, professor of mathematics and methods of teaching; B. F. Boyer, M. D., professor of anatomy, physiology and hygiene; Rev. O. H. Melchor, professor of moral philosophy; Miss Amanda Hess, teacher of music and drawing.

In the spring of 1887 several more were added to the faculty. Henry B. Strock, now M. D., teacher of primary department; Miss Anna M. Kaufman, teacher of orthography; I. R. Walp, teacher of drawing. In the autumn of 1887 Rev. T. C. Strock left for Ursinus College to resume his theological studies, after which O. T. Ettwein was principal. In the fall of 1889 Rev. O. T. Ettwein also left for Muhlenberg to study theology. To both Strock and Ettwein teaching has proved but a stepping stone to something higher. They are both now ministers of the Gospel. Rev. T. C. Strock is stationed at James Creek, Huntingdon county, and Rev. O. T. Ettwein is stationed at Pittston, Pa. Rev. O. T. Ettwein's successor was Prof. M. L. Horne, who taught three terms, and having been elected principal of the borough schools of Quakertown, left for that place. Prof. M. L. Horne's successor was Prof. A. H. Jordan, who taught one term and one week, when the academy was discontinued for the winter. In the spring of 1891, Prof. A. I. Reinhard took charge of the academy. During the winter he taught the East Springtown school. Since that the academy is only open during the spring and early summer. But it has been moved to the East Springtown school house.

Two classes graduated from the academy, class of '87 and class of '88. The class of '87 comprise the following: Anna M. Kaufman, Emily A. Boyer, teacher in Springfield township; John A. Gruver, who was afterward a graduate of Lehigh University, and afterward a successful teacher in Bucks county, died suddenly February 7th, 1895; Harry H. Funk, manager of the Springtown *Times*; Harvey F. Nase, a student at Lehigh Univer-

sity; Eugene S. H. Leith, now clerking in a store. The class of '88 comprise the following: M. Lizzie Boyer, now teaching in Doylestown township; Amos O. Cawley, of Lewisburg, now a veterinary surgeon practicing at Milton, Pa.; Erwin Dieterly, now in the theological seminary at Gettysburg; Laura Rhoad, who is now Mrs. John Fackenthal, of Bethlehem; Henry B. Stroock, who is now a practicing physician located at Saxton, Bedford county, Pa.

From, *Democrat*

Doylestown Pa

Date, *Oct 24 / 95*

AN OLD PAPER

In the Possession of William Jenks
Fell Recalls

AN ARRAY OF HISTORIC FACTS.

It is an Article of Agreement Between Jonathan Fell and Isaac Worthington for a Tract of 111 Acres and 100 Perches of Land Made in 1765.

The following copy of a document in the possession of William Jenks Fell brings to light a number of historic facts which will be of interest to the readers of the DEMOCRAT:

"Memorandum of a bargain made by and between Jonathan Fell and Isaac Worthington as followeth, to wit: That the said Jonathan Fell hath bargained and sold to the said Isaac Worthington a certain tract of land containing 111 acres and 100 perches, situate partly in Warwick and partly in Buckingham, at five pounds per acre, one half of the principal money to be paid on the sixth day of April next, when the said Worthington is to have possession of said land; and the other half in 12 months from that day, and in case the said Isaac Worthington cannot pay one-half the purchase money on the said sixth day of April then to give bond with satisfactory security for the payment thereof with interest in 12 months time and likewise give satisfactory security for the payment of the other half in 12 months without interest, and the said Jonathan Fell doth agree to make to the said Isaac Worthington a title to the said 111 acres and 100 perches of land when he shall have paid one hundred pounds of the

purchase money and the said Isaac Worthington doth agree to secure the payment of the remainder of the same by a mortgage of the said land upon receiving such title as witness our hands this 12th day of March, 1765.

Note--That it is hereby agreed by both the parties that the tenant James Robinson shall have liberty to cut and save his crop of *corn now in the ground on the premises and to thresh it in the barn and carry the same away and to carry 200 dozen thereof away in ye sheaf if he thinks fit.

JONATHAN FELL,
ISSAC WORTHINGTON."

Witness present,
WILLIAM CARVER.

Jonathan Fell, mentioned in the above, was the great grandfather of William Jenks Fell, president of the Bucks County Railway Company, and the tract mentioned in the article of agreement doubtless included in part what is now the Mann farm on the Doylestown and Centerville pike, beyond the borough mill.

At the time the agreement was written and down to 1807 when the present Court street of Doylestown was opened, the Mann farm was in Warwick and extended across into Buckingham. Jonathan Fell, in ye olden time was a blacksmith and from the best evidence we have been able to obtain on the subject, his smithshop was in the southwest corner of the Ross mansion recently sold to the Doylestown National Bank, and doubtless was the beginning of that dwelling as anyone can see by examining the walls, as they are older at that corner than in any other part of the building.

Mr. Fell followed blacksmithing there in June, 1778, when the Continental Army passed through Doylestown on its way to strike the British at Monmouth, and how long afterward we do not recall. During the time the Continental Army remained at Doylestown on that occasion, two nights and one day, Washington quartered in Jonathan Fell's house, and the big clock that stood in the hallway, and is now in the possession of William Jenks Fell, of Delaware, governed the movements of the troops while lying here and of time of leaving. It is still in perfect condition and keeps excellent time.

Tradition tells us, that while Washington occupied the Fell house, his pickets brought in a couple of strangers, charged with being spies for the enemy. They asserted their innocence, and one said to Washington, "If you allow me time I will go and bring back evidence of it." To this the Commander-in-Chief replied, looking up at the clock, "You may go, and I will give you until a certain time to return, and if you are not here by that time your companion will be shot." The prisoner left, and, good as his word, returned within the time fixed by Washington, with evidence that proved the innocence of both, whereupon they were discharged.

Returning to Jonathan Fell and his blacksmith shop there is evidence that he burned his charcoal on the opposite side of Main street on the property lately belonging to William Thompson, deceased, as charcoal remains were found there some years ago in building a cattle scale.

Jonathan Fell, spoken of, was a descendant of Joseph Fell, who immigrated from Cumberland, England, in 1705, with his wife and two children, and settled in Buckingham. There are many descendants of

this early pioneer, who may be found in several States of the Union, and have held many honorable and responsible positions in life. One of them was the first graduate from the Pennsylvania University Medical School and the certificate, with the name of the great Dr. Rush upon it, is still held by the family as a curio.
*The word "corn" referred to was wheat.

From, *Republican*
Doylston Pa
Date, *Oct 10/95*

OVER A CENTURY OLD.

The "Lower Hotel" In Sellersville
of Ancient Origin.

A LANDMARK OF THE REVOLUTION

The Hotel Was Erected About One Hundred and Fifteen Years Ago By Samuel Sellers—His Son Succeeded In Ownership and Gave the Town Its Present Name.

What is commonly known as the "lower" hotel in Sellersville has again changed proprietors, Mr. C. M. Hartzell being now the owner of this ancient hostelry. Around this old landmark cling memories interesting to the antiquarian and the student of local history. Around it cluster stories of the Revolutionary days, and of the times when the sturdy Quaker and the Pennsylvania German, following the trail of the Perkiomen and its branches, settled in a new country. In the days of the stage coach this was an important station, relays of horses being kept here for the coaches on their way between Philadelphia and Bethlehem.

Just how long it has been occupied and when it was built cannot be definitely ascertained. It is known, however, that Thomas Sellers was born here in 1787. The hotel was built by Samuel Sellers probably in 1780. Samuel was a son of Phillip Henry Soller, who was the first settler of that family in this country. He was the owner of several hundred acres of land situated along the Branch Creek in Sellersville.

The building, as originally erected by Samuel Sellers, was a small, square, stone structure, consisting of two stories and an attic. Since that time the hotel has been considerably enlarged and improved.

Upon the death of Samuel Sellers his son, Thomas, took charge of the tavern and owned it for a long time. Here he kept a store, post office and hotel. He was the first postmaster of the place, having been appointed in 1820. The office was named



"LOWER HOTEL" IN SELLERSVILLE—ERECTED ABOUT 1780.

after him, "Seller's Tavern," which was changed to Sellersville in 1866.

The "old-line-Whig," as he was called, was quite prominent in the politics of his day. He served the county as sheriff and several terms in the Legislature. The land where the Washington House now stands was part of his farm. He was the first to recognize the necessity of a stage line connecting Philadelphia and Bethlehem. To him belongs the honor of running the first coach and establishing the line between these two cities. Two coaches were run, one going the other returning, occupying a whole day in making the trip. They were liberally patronized, especially by pupils of Bethlehem Seminary which was at that time a noted institution and attended by the sons of prominent Philadelphians. While the North Penn railroad was being built the coaches were made good use of by engineers and superintendents of the company.

The animated discussions of old men who nightly assembled at this ancient hotel would make interesting reading for the present generation. At the close of the Revolutionary War, with the patriotic spirit of the people fully aroused, the old inn must have witnessed more exciting meetings than ever.

During the Fries rebellion, in 1799, the nine hundred troops, encamped near the village, drilled in front of the hotel and no doubt owned the house.

The place has undergone great changes, each new proprietor doing more or less patching up. The narrow flagged pathway that planked the old roadway is no more. The stables and shedding which occupied the open space at the lower side of the hotel have been removed. The veranda has long ago disappeared. The flat paneled shutters proclaim the great age of the building most forcibly.

The old fashioned brass door knocker, ornamented with the initials of Samuel Sellers, is still on the old door and not a few curio-hunters, have tried to purchase it. Opening the door the guest finds himself in a comfortable hallway and begins to scent antiquity. Whitewashed beams cross the low ceiling and in the parlor is found that universal feature of old inns—the open fireplace. Ascending the stairs one finds

"Weather-stains upon the wall,
And stairways worn, and crazy doors,
And creaking and uneven floors,
And chimneys huge and tiled and tall."

The carvings and the mouldings, the angles and corners, the quaint little panes of glass, and the quaint little windows, attest the great age of the building.

The hotel has successively passed from Thomas Sellers, Peter Kneckel, Amos Jacoby, Simon Jacoby, Harry Jacoby, Thomas Kerns, Samuel Binder, Abraham W. Reiff, James Bahl, W. S. Cressman to C. M. Hartzell. By another year this old landmark will probably have been removed and a large building, more modern in design, will be erected by the present proprietor.

From,

Intelligence
Doylton Pa

Date,

Oct 11/1895

EARLY CONGRESSMEN.

Second Paper on Bucks County's Representatives.

Read before the Bucks County Historical Society at the Wolf Rocks, in Buckingham Township, by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville, July 15, 1895.

On a former occasion I had the pleasure of bringing to the society a sketch of members of Congress, who had represented Bucks county, all of whom, with few exceptions, resided in the county. But for a considerable period our county was united with several other counties in districts that sent to Congress more than one member at the same time, and it has been deemed desirable to gather up the facts attainable in reference to all those who acted for us in the National halls of legislation, though they were not residents of our county, and though they represented the district in conjunction with others. For some items of information that follow I am indebted to Hon. Harman Yerkes, President Judge of the Courts of Bucks county, and to D. H. Neiman, Esq., of Easton, Pa.

The members of the Continental Congress from Pennsylvania previous to 1787, when the National Constitution was adopted, were elected by the State Assembly, two of whom, Joseph Galloway and Henry Wynkoop, were from Bucks county, and have already been spoken of. The new Constitution provided that Pennsylvania should have eight Congressmen till the next census, and in the 1st and 2d Congresses it had eight; in the sessions following it had thirteen till 1803. An Act was passed by our Legislature Oct. 4, 1788, prescribing in what manner members of Congress and electors for President of the United States should be chosen, but it does not divide the State into districts, and I am informed by W. M. Gearhart, Esq., Chief Clerk of the Secretary of the Commonwealth in Harrisburg, that it is impossible in his office to find who represented Bucks county before 1803. All the mem-

bers in the last century may be properly termed "Congressmen-at-Large," as they represented the whole State, strictly speaking, rather than any one portion of it.

One of the earliest representatives, who had charge of the interests of our county in Congress, was Hon. Samuel Sitgreaves. He was born in Philadelphia, received a liberal academical education, studied law and was admitted to the bar. He commenced practice in Easton, where he soon displayed eminent ability and profound learning, and was chosen a delegate to the Convention in 1790, which framed a Constitution for Pennsylvania under the new system of national government. Decidedly and warmly in favor of a firm union of the States, he acted with the Federalists, and was chosen a member of the lower house of Congress, and took his seat December 7, 1795. Securing in a high degree the confidence of his constituents and an elevated place in public esteem, he was re-elected and entered again upon his duties in 1797. His reputation for mental acumen and deep reasoning became so conspicuous that he was appointed by President John Adams in 1798 a commissioner to treat with Great Britain in regard to difficulties, which had arisen in the commercial relation of the two countries. We were accused of showing partiality for France in the war, in which she was engaged with England. The latter proud of her superiority as "mistress of the seas," endeavored to lay humiliating restrictions upon our commerce, to which our nation did not propose to submit. In the struggles of France with other European nations then in progress we desired to stand neutral, and Mr. Sitgreaves was designated as fully qualified to assist in arranging measures, by which our rights and interests would be secured. To enter upon this important duty he resigned his seat in Congress and was succeeded by General Robert Brown. After a life of distinguished honor his death took place at a ripe old age in Philadelphia, April 4, 1824.

By Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, of April 2, 1802, Bucks, Montgomery, Northampton and Luzerne counties were constituted one district, and were directed to elect three members of Congress till the next apportionment, which by law of the United States would be made after the succeeding census in 1810.

One of those who represented this district of four counties during the period from 1802 to 1812 was General Robert Brown. He became a member of the House before the district was constituted, being elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. Samuel Sitgreaves. He first took his seat December 4, 1798, and served by repeated re-elections to March 2, 1815, being in nine Congresses, from the fifth to the thirteenth inclusive, about eighteen years. The territory for which he acted comprised most of Eastern Pennsylvania. His services were eminently satisfactory to his constituents, so much so that his election on each occasion is said to have been unanimous, or without opposition, except once, when the Federal party set up as their candidate against him Mr. Sitgreaves, whose reputation as special

envoy to England they hoped would carry great weight in his favor. Even then Gen. Brown prevailed by a large majority.

During the Revolution he was an officer in a body of troops under Washington, called the "Flying Camp." They comprised two thousand men and were among the best of the American army. After Gen. Howe had captured New York City, Washington retreated northward, but left Col. Morgan with three thousand soldiers, among whom were Robert Brown and his comrades at Fort Mifflin, with orders to hold it to the last. This fortification was on Mifflin Island, about eleven miles above the city. It was soon attacked by a strong force of the British, and was defended with great courage and determination. The fight continued all day. When the ammunition of the Americans was exhausted they resisted assaults with the barrels of their muskets, but at last were forced to surrender to superior numbers. The enemy lost about a thousand men in killed and wounded, and the English commander was so incensed at the stubborn resistance he had met with, that he deliberately put to death one of the colonels. The prisoners were placed in a church under guard, and for three days and nights had no food. Starvation and exhaustion were fatal to many of them, and the dead were carried away in carts by their heartless foes and dumped into pits with quicklime to hasten decomposition. Being an officer Capt. Brown, who had learned the trade of a blacksmith in his youth, was released on parole, and working at that business in the vicinity where his men were confined, he earned money with which he bought bread and distributed it among them, saving most of them from perishing. This fact reported at home

by survivors proved one of the elements in his long continued popularity.

Hon. Isaac VanHorne was another of the three gentlemen who represented the district during the period from 1802 to 1812. He was born in Bucks county and served as a captain in the Revolutionary War. He was coroner from 1786 to 1791 and member of the State Legislature from 1797 to 1800 inclusive, being elected four years in succession, as that body then met annually. He was chosen member of the National House of Representatives twice and served from 1801 to 1805. A conference of the different counties of the district was held at Nazareth.

Another of the members of Congress in the early parts of this century from the district, in which Bucks county was included, was Hon. John Ross. He was the grandson of Thomas Ross, who was born in County Tyrone, in the north of Ireland, in 1708, and immigrated to Upper Merioneth in 1728, when he was twenty years of age, at a period, which was marked by the coming of large numbers of Scotch-Irish to Pennsylvania. Thomas Ross, the grandfather of the Judge, John Ross, is said to have been brought up in the Episcopal church; if so, he left the ecclesiastical associations of his ancestors, and in 1729 was admitted to membership in the Friends' meeting at Wrightstown, and subsequently became a noted minister in that denomination. In June, 1784, he made a visit for

religious purposes in company with other Friends to England, Scotland and Ireland. During his travels he reached the home of Lindley Murray, the celebrated English grammarian, at Holdgate, near York, where overcome by the infirmities of years, he died June 13, 1786, in the 78th year of his age. He is spoken of as a man of great excellence of character and of unusual strength of mind. His grandson, John Ross, born February 29, 1770, received a good English education, and while a young man, taught school in Durham township. Here he became acquainted with Richard Backhouse, proprietor of the iron furnace, who seeing in him promise of future distinction encouraged him to study law at Easton, agreeing to lend him money for his expenses till he could support himself in his profession. He applied himself with diligence, was admitted to the bar, and soon proved a learned counsellor and an able advocate. Interested in the affairs of the nation, he was elected to the Eleventh Congress, which began its sessions May 22, 1809. His term at this time continued to March 3, 1811. Being again elected without opposition, in conjunction with Samuel D. Ingham, to the Fourteenth Congress and re-elected to the Fifteenth, his second period in Washington was from December 4, 1815, to February 24, 1818, when he resigned to accept the Judgeship of the Seventh Judicial District, consisting of the counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware, with two associate judges. This position of influence and responsibility he held twelve years, till April 9, 1830, when he was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. His tenure of this high office, however, was only four years, as he was removed by death in 1834, aged 64 years. He had purchased some time previously a considerable tract of land in a secluded section of Monroe county, on which he had set apart a family burying ground, and there his remains were deposited in their final resting place. In person Judge Ross was tall, erect and muscular. His manners were dignified, inclining to austerity, and in some respects he seemed eccentric. At one time he displayed a taste for spotted or calico horses, which were then rarely seen, and with a span of them attached to his large heavy carriage, as he rode to and fro between Doylestown and Philadelphia, he was the object of interest and respectful curiosity to all observers. Among his descendants were his son, Hon. Thomas Ross, and his grandsons, Judge Henry P. Ross, of Norristown, and Hon. George Ross.

Another of the gentlemen associated in the representation of the district comprising our county between 1802 and 1812 was Hon. Frederick Conrad. He was born in Worcester township, Montgomery county, where he resided most of his life. Of German extraction his father, or grandfather, crossed the ocean to find liberty and prosperity in this home of the free. His first wife was Catharine Schneider, by whom he had seven children, one of whom was the mother of Judge Hoover, of Norristown. His education was received principally in the common school, that intellectual nursery of many distinguished men, but reading and study developed a natural

ly strong mind, and early in life he stood high among his fellow citizens for sterling sense and extensive information, and in 1798, he was elected to the lower house of the State Assembly, and was re-elected the two following years, serving three terms. In 1804 and 1805, he was paymaster of the 51st Regiment of the Penna. militia.

In 1803 having been elected as a Federalist he took his seat in Congress and was re-elected in 1805, holding the position till December 3, 1807, four years. His nomination the second time took place at a meeting of conference at Nazareth, Sept. 25, 1804, when Hon. Isaac VanHorne presided. In his congressional career his coadjutors were John Pugh, of Bucks,—of whom I gave a sketch in January—and Judge John Ross, of Northampton county. In 1809, when Nathaniel B. Boileau, of Hatboro was appointed Secretary of the Commonwealth by Gov. Snyder, his seat in the Legislature became vacant, and Mr. Conrad was nominated by the Federal party to fill his place, but was defeated by Richard T. Leech, Republican. In 1807 he was appointed by Gov. McKean Justice of the Peace, and probably continued a magistrate as long as he lived, for at that period the office was held during good behavior. In February, 1821, he received from Gov. Hiester the appointment of prothonotary and clerk of the courts of Montgomery county, and was reappointed by Gov. Shultz in 1824, performing the duties of the post faithfully six years.

Mr. Conrad's home and farm was at Centre Point, on the Skippack road, about four miles northeast of Norristown, to which borough he removed late in life. Being a Justice of the Peace he wrote many deeds and mortgages and joined many couples in marriage. In person he was of medium height, stoutly built, and inclined to corpulence. With a flow of animal spirit he united sprightliness in conversation and his companionship was sought by a wide circle of friends in public and private life. He died in Norristown and was buried in the graveyard of the Wentz German Reformed congregation, of which he was a member and officer.

Another of those who represented Bucks county, when it was joined with Montgomery, Northampton and Luzerne, was Hon. Thomas Jones Rogers. Born in Waterford, Ireland, in 1780, he was brought by his parents to this country when he was six years old. His father settled in Philadelphia and engaged in the manufacture of glue and cow-skin whips. His son, Thomas, in early youth learned the art of printing and having acquired some skill and experience in that, which is the preserver of all arts, he went to Washington City, and remained there several years. Subsequently he

removed to Easton, Pa., where he purchased the *Delaware Democrat* and *Easton Gazette*, which he successfully conducted a long period. During this time he compiled, printed and published a work entitled, "A New American Biographical Dictionary or Remembrancer of the Departed Heroes, Sages and Statesmen of America," which was designed specially for the use of schools. This book ran through three editions, the last having been issued in 1824. In

the war of 1812 he was an officer in the Pennsylvania troops that marched to Marcus Hook for the defense of Philadelphia, and rose to the rank of Brigadier General, which he held a long time in the militia of this State. Judge John Ross having resigned his membership in Congress, Gen. Rogers was elected to fill his place and took his seat in the 15th Congress, March 24, 1818; re-elected to the 16th, 17th and 18th Congresses he served until April 26, 1824, when he resigned, as he had been appointed Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for Northampton county, which position he occupied several years. He was one of the incorporators named in the charter of Lafayette college at Easton, and was an honored trustee of that institution from 1826 to 1832. In 1830 he returned to Philadelphia, where he was an officer of United States customs. His death occurred in New York city, December 7, 1832, at the age of 52 years. He married Mary Winters, daughter of Christian and Mary Winters, of Easton. They had eleven children, ten of which were born in Easton and one in Philadelphia.

One of the sons, Gen. William Findley Rogers, was also a printer, having learned the trade with his father in Easton. Early in life he removed to Buffalo, N. Y., where in after years he filled the offices of city auditor, controller and mayor. During the war with the Southern Confederacy he served his country with distinction and was afterwards appointed Major General of the Fourth Division, National Guards of the State of New York. One of the daughters of Gen. Thomas Rogers was the wife of the late Dr. F. A. Fickhardt, of Bethlehem, Pa. Another son, also a printer, and a daughter reside in Philadelphia.

Another of them, who represented this district, was Hon. Jonathan Roberts. He was born in Upper Merion township, Montgomery county, August 16, 1771. His great grandfather, John Roberts, emigrated from North Wales to America in 1682, and settled in what is now Lower Merion township. He was a millwright and erected the third mill in the Province of Pennsylvania. Jonathan's father, also named Jonathan, in 1771 was chosen a member of the Colonial Assembly, and continued to serve in that capacity four years. The son, Jonathan, the subject of this sketch, when five years old was sent to school to Lawrence Bathurst, a nephew of Allen Lord Bathurst, one of the English nobility, and was his pupil five years. His teacher had received a liberal education in England, and being endowed with a strong mind made a lasting impression upon his mental habits and character. When fourteen years of age he came under the tuition of a Mr. Farris, at the "Gulph." While under his instruction he was directed to commit to memory and declaim Addison's "Soliloquy of Cato." This he refused to do, because he thought it wrong to learn and repeat the sentiments of a man who had intentionally killed himself. He did not then understand that Addison designed not to commend the views of the ancient Romans, but to put into his mouth those of a heathen philosopher. When about seventeen years of age he was indentured to learn the trade of a wheelwright, and passed through a full apprenticeship of three years. During

this time he sought the society of intelligent and cultivated people in his vicinity with a desire for personal improvement. Speaking of this period, when he was an old man he said, "I was engaged in my work sometimes from earliest dawn to latest twilight. Work absorbed every thought and feeling. I have felt at times a like abstraction when in office, discharging public duties. To this faculty of entire absorption of my powers, whether mental or physical, I owe any success I have ever reached." He read and studied morning and evening and wrote essays that he might form a correct and forcible style of composition.

In 1795 Jonathan and his brother, Matthew, leased their father's large farm of 375 acres and managed it with energy and success, and in seven years he said, "We could command \$7000 and had increased our stock and improved the land. At every spare moment I resorted to my studies. My desk and books were ever kept at hand. I never touched them, however, but with cleanly washed hands." In 1798, being then in his 28th year, he was elected to the Legislature, and was one of the youngest members. At that time the seat of the State Government was at Lancaster. Speaking of his return home at the close of the first session, he said, "I sat down to a plain farmer's table, lodged in the old loft on a chaff bed, and in three days had resumed my usual habits of daily toil."

He was returned to the Assembly the next year and began to take part in the discussions before the House. In 1807 he was elected contrary to his expectation to the State Senate by a majority of 500 over John Richards, a popular German candidate. In this body he was a prominent actor, and at the close of the term had acquired a solid reputation for high character and ability. In 1811 he was elected by the Republican party a member of Congress, in conjunction with Gen. Robert Brown, of Northampton county, and William Rodman, of Bucks, and in the autumn went to Washington in a private hack through Lancaster, which was called the western route. The question of a war with Great Britain for her aggressions upon our commerce soon came before Congress, and Mr. Roberts took a firm stand with the administration of Mr. Madison in favor of that measure and made an able speech against the arbitrary assumptions of the mother country.

By an arrangement instituted by the Legislature in 1812, Montgomery and Chester counties were erected into one district, which Mr. Roberts was chosen to represent. He continued to favor carrying on the war with vigor, and rose to such prominence as a statesman, that he was chosen a member of the U. S. Senate, and having resigned from the House of Representatives he took his seat as Senator, Feb. 23, 1814, and served with honor till 1820, the end of his term. He earnestly opposed the extension of slavery and the Missouri compromise. After the expiration of his career in Congress he was sent again to the Pennsylvania Legislature and subsequently re-elected. In the political contests between Gen. Jackson and John Quincy Adams, he advocated the claims of the latter, and was henceforth associated with the Whig party, and was a delegate

to the national convention that met at Harrisburg and nominated General Wm. H. Harrison for the Presidency. When John Tyler became President, he appointed Mr. Roberts Collector of Customs at Philadelphia, greatly to his surprise, as he had recommended for the post Henry Morris, the youngest son of Robert Morris, the Financier of the Revolution. With President Tyler's course in breaking away from his former affiliations he did not sympathize, and resigned the collectorship, which was his last public office. So decidedly was he in favor of home manufacture, that he would never knowingly wear a garment of foreign fabrics. He married when he was in his fortieth year, in 1813, just before the adjournment of Congress, Miss Eliza H. Bushly, a lady of rare endowments in Washington. Previous to that time he and his brother Matthew had managed in partnership their father's extensive tract and other lands they had bought. Now they were divided, and his home was on his part till his death, which occurred July 21, 1854, at the advanced age of 83 years. His wife survived him eleven years. They had nine children, one of whom, Jonathan M. Roberts, still occupies the ancestral property, which has been in possession of the family the protracted period of 213 years.

An Act was passed by our Legislature, April 2, 1822, constituting the Eighth Congressional District of the counties of Bucks, Northampton, Pike and Wayne, to be represented by two members. In the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Congresses, that is from 1822 to 1824, Samuel D. Ingham and Thomas J. Rogers were the two joint representatives. In 1824 Mr. Rogers resigned, and Hon. George Wolf was elected to fill the vacancy. He was born in Allen township, Northampton county, August 12, 1777, of German parentage. He received a classical education, studied law, was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice at Easton. When a young man he was initiated into the Order of Free Masons and was for many years a popular member of Easton Lodge. Active in politics he was sent to the Pennsylvania Legislature, and serving his constituents faithfully there, was crowned with higher honors, and elected to the House of Representatives in Washington, for the second session of the Eighteenth Congress, taking the oath of office, December 9, 1824. Re-elected to the Nineteenth and Twentieth Congresses, his term of service extended to March 3, 1829, nearly five years. He was then chosen Governor of Pennsylvania, and was an able and honored chief executive from 1829 to 1835, six years. An ardent Democrat and an earnest friend of General Jackson, he was appointed first Comptroller of the Treasury of the United States, and discharged with ability the duties of that responsible position from June 18, 1836, to February 23, 1838. When Mr. Van Buren occupied the Presidential chair, he received the lucrative appointment of Collector of Customs at Philadelphia. Two Presidents thus indicated their high appreciation of his talents, industry and integrity. He died in Philadelphia, March 14, 1840, in the 64th year of his age.

In the Twenty-first and Twenty-second Congresses Hon. Samuel A. Smith, of whom I spoke on a former occasion as

from Bucks county, and General Peter Ihrie were united in representing this district. General Ihrie was born in Easton, February 3, 1796. It is said by those who knew him, that he was a gentleman in every sense of the term, courteous, brave and honorable. In 1829 he was elected to Congress as a Jackson Democrat and re-elected in 1831, serving four years. In the days of the organized militia he was Major General of a division, and had the reputation of being a thoroughly trained officer. For many years he was a member of the board of directors of the old Easton bank and the solicitor of that board. He was one of the founders of Christ Lutheran Church in Easton, and for a long period the president of its board of trustees.

His first wife was Camillia Ross, daughter of Judge John Ross. By this marriage there were five children, two sons and three daughters. Their mother died November 11, 1841. He subsequently married Eliza Roberts, of Newtown, a sister of the late Judge Stokes L. Roberts. General Ihrie died at the family residence, on the northeast corner of the public square in Easton, March 28, 1871, in the 76th year of his age. His remains were interred in the Easton cemetery. He lived a long useful life, respected and honored by the whole community. His brother Anthony, the only survivor of his family, still resides in Easton.

From 1832 to 1843 Bucks county alone constituted the Sixth District with one member of Congress.

From 1843 to 1852 the Sixth District was composed of Bucks and Lehigh counties with one member. In the latter year the name of the same district was changed to the Seventh, and still up to the present time with several alterations of territory it has sent but one member to the National Lower House at Washington.

I will now give a list of all who have represented our county in Congress, as complete as I have been able to make it. Some having been in office at different times, I will mention their names but once, in chronological order, according to the date of their first election. Henry Wynkoop, Samuel Sitgreaves, Robert Brown, Isaac VanHorne, Frederick Conrad, John Pugh, John Ross, Johnathan Roberts, William Rodman, Samuel D. Ingham, Thomas J. Rogers, Samuel Moore, George Wolf, Peter Ihrie, Robert Ramsey, Matthias Morris, John Davis, Michael H. Jenks, Jacob Erdman, Samuel A. Bridges, Thomas Ross, Samuel C. Bradshaw, Henry Chapman, Henry C. Longnecker, Thomas B. Cooper, John D. Stiles, M. Russell Thayer, Caleb N. Taylor, John R. Reading, Alfred C. Harmer, Alan Wood, I. Newton Evans, William Godshall, Robert M. Yardley, Edwin Halloway, Irvin P. Wanger.

From *The American*

Trenton N.J.

Date, *Oct 12 '95*

TWO PATRIOTIC EVENTS

Memorial Tablets to be Unveiled on Tuesday—Why They Are Erected—The Monuments Illustrated—Interesting Facts Relative to the History of the Event They Commemorate.

The Bucks County Historical Society of which General W. W. H. Davis, of the

Doylestown "Democrat," is President will dedicate at Taylorsville, on Tuesday next, a monument marking the spot where General George Washington crossed the Delaware river before the battle of Trenton, on Christmas night of 1776. The story has been repeatedly told, and though old yet it is always listened to with interest, and the telling of it again and again should not be omitted, that the boys and girls of today, who are to be the men and women of tomorrow, may know and understand to whom and what they owe the liberties they enjoy in this land of freedom.

We tell the story here briefly again:

The monument is situated on the land of Dr. Griffie, in Taylorsville, and stands a few feet from the river road. It is in the centre of what was the road leading from the highway to McConkey's ferry, at the time Washington crossed. The following inscription has been placed on the monument:

"Near This Spot
Washington Crossed
The Delaware on Christmas Night,
1776, the Eve of the Battle of
Trenton."

Some cherished memories cling about the old McConkey ferry house, of the dark days of the Revolution.

Pennsylvania bore a noble part in the events that were crowded in the few days of the Christmas holidays of 1776.

The army, by expirations of terms of service, had been reduced to 1,400 men, poorly clad and without proper support. Congress had adjourned from Philadelphia to Baltimore; two distinguished officers had grown weary in the cause. Under such conditions, Dr. David Ramsey, the historian, says: "Washington was greatly discouraged, and had determined to fly to the Allegheny Mountains." It was at this period that the support of 1,500 Pennsylvania volunteers, known as the "Associators," tendered their services, revived the spirits of Washington and determined in his mind the movement upon Trenton. The Pennsylvania line was to the Continental army what the Pennsylvania reserves were to the army of the Potomac—the very backbone of attack and defense. Taking into his confidence the President of Pennsylvania, with Generals Ewing and Cadwallader, of the "Associators," the designs were laid for a surprise and attack on the morning following Christmas day. To the glory of Pennsylvania she had a large share in the success of the great victory. She was represented by the First Regiment, Continental Foot, commanded by Colonel Edward Hand, the First Rifle Regiment, volunteers, Major Williams, commanding; the German Regiment, Continental Infantry

Colonel Haussafer, commanding; the Second Company of the State Artillery Battalion, Captain Thomas Forrest, commanding; the Second Company of Artillery, Philadelphia Association, Captain Joseph Moulder; and the Philadelphia Troop of Light Horse, Captain Samuel Morris. General Washington advanced with Captain Forest's Battery of six guns, giving direction as to the firing and Colonel Hand's corps of Pennsylvania Riflemen cut off the retreat of Hessians and compelled their surrender.

In view of these facts it is meet and fitting that the descendants of these persons, who so bravely stepped into the breach, in the hour of their country's peril should rear tablets of enduring bronze to their memory.

For days before the crossing was to be effected General Washington had men scouring the river on both sides for miles, gathering up all the river craft that could be made of service in conveying the troops, and on the 20th of December everything was in readiness for the surprise. Plans had been made for supporting forces to co-operate with Washington both north and south of Trenton, but one after another his aides deserted him through fear or lack of confidence in their ability to meet the strong force of Hessians, so that when Washington was ready to strike the blow, he alone, with but 2,400 men, remained to make the attack. But he never faltered. The Hessian commander knew that the attack was contemplated, but met the reports of it with ridicule. The patriots crossed the river, blocked with ice, during a pelting hail storm. It was broad daylight when the landing was made. The jagged ice floating swiftly by, struck the boats severely, and they had to be handled with the greatest care. The night was, as Captain Thomas Rodney said, "as severe as I ever saw it." It was dark and cold and dismal, and mingled hail and snow after 11 o'clock, but Colonel Glover's Marblehead regiment of fishermen at last ferried the whole force over the river with all their horses and cannon. Colonel Knox, with a stentorian voice that was heard above the creaking of the ice, repeated Washington's orders on the Pennsylvania side. It was after 3 o'clock when the Americans reached the New Jersey shore and the order for the expected attack was 5 o'clock in the morning. This could not now be carried out. During the last hour Washington had been seated upon what had been a beehive, eagerly watching the passage of his troops. Here David Lanning, the Birmingham blacksmith, who had left Trenton late on Christmas night, came up to Washington and gave him the latest news concerning the condition of the Hessian foe. Then Captain John Mott, the grandfather of the late Major General Mott, started out with a fusée on his shoulder to guide the troops past his own dwelling house, now a part of the property of the lunatic asylum, to the surprise of Trenton.

The farmers of old Hunterdon county had done good service to Washington, by assisting in ferrying over his soldiers, and were now ready to accompany his columns as guides. Their names, in addition to those just mentioned, were: Col. Joseph Phillips who commanded the First Hunterdon regiment of militia, and his

adjutant, Elias Phillips; John Muirheid, John Guild, Henry Simons, William Green, Amos Scudder, Ephraim Woolsey, Stephen Burroughs, Eden Burroughs, Joseph Luslee and Uriah Slack.

The password of the day was "Victory or Death." The wind that day was cast northeast, and the storm for at least a part of the march beat rather more on the left shoulders than in the faces of the patriotic army. The ground was very slippery from the sleet and snow, and their miserable clothing made their condition truly pitiable.

The New Jersey monument erected by the Society of the Cincinnati in New Jersey is situated on a red shale bluff about one hundred yards west of the railroad station at Washington's Crossing, or Bernardsville, as it was formerly called, and earlier still "Eight-Mile Ferry" and McConkey's Ferry." A bronze tablet on the monument bears this inscription:

"This tablet is erected by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey to commemorate the crossing of the Delaware river by General Washington and the Continental army, on Christmas night, seventeen hundred and seventy-six."

The Society of the Cincinnati, which has taken up the work of erecting memorial tablets marking historic spots throughout the State, is an association founded by the officers of the American Revolutionary army after the peace of 1783. Its object was to commemorate the success of the Revolution and to perpetuate sentiments of patriotism, benevolence and brotherly love, and the memory of hardships experienced in common. The original draft of its constitution was made by General Knox, the "Bookseller of Boston," who won his General's commission at the battle of Trenton.

The meeting for the organization of the society was held at the quarters of Baron Steuben, in New York, on the Hudson river. Appropriate badges and ornaments were devised, including the eagle, and uniting the colors blue and white in compliment to the combined armies through which the Revolution had been achieved. The honors of life membership were conferred upon a number of French officers. A fund was formed by the contribution of one month's pay for the relief of members in needy circumstances.

The constitution declared that "the officers of the American army associated themselves into one society of friends, to endure as long as they shall endure, or any of their eldest male posterity, and in failure thereof, the collateral branches who may be judged worthy of becoming its supporters and members.

At the second general meeting, held in 1787, Washington was elected President General and was re-elected triennially during his life.

The society in New Jersey is one of the oldest and bears upon its roll of members many honored names. Hon Clifford Stanley Sims is the President of the society in New Jersey and will participate in the dedication exercises.

The dedicatory exercises will take place at Taylorsville on Tuesday afternoon next, at 1:30 o'clock. General Davis, President of the Bucks County Historical Society, will preside, and Adjutant General William S. Stryker, of this city, will deliver an address, followed by an oration

by Dwight M. Lowrie, Esq., of Philadelphia. At the conclusion of the exercises at Taylorsville the New Jersey tablet will be unveiled.

The exercises will be simple but expressive, and should the weather be fine a large number of people will no doubt be present.

